

CUTTING AND CHIPPING of lunar rock 14310 is diagramed in drawing, above. A small cube hewn from the rock (photo, insert) was used at MIT for tests of seismic velocity.

MIT scientists analyze Apollo lunar samples

By Pete Mancuso

Since the first manned lunar landing two years ago, MIT scientists have taken a large part in the study of samples returned by the Apollo crews.

Study has been done at the Institute in the fields of physical properties, electrical and dielectric properties, the age of the samples, and examination for the presence of organic materials.

Professor Gene Simmons has led a group of scientists that includes Professors D. H. Chang and Nafi Töksoz in an examination of the seismic velocity, thermal conductivity, and thermal expansion of the lunar samples. Their work was made more difficult than might be expected by microcracks found in the rocks. These small cracks made contamination by water a possible problem.

This means of testing seismic velocity is a transducer attached to a cube hewn out of the rock. By timing the vibrations as they travel through the rock, an accurate velocity can be determined. Furthermore, velocities at different depths of the moon can be analyzed by simulating the depth with appro-

priately pressured nitrogen gas. The importance of this test is that it shows the scientists how to interpret the data sent back by the seismometers left on the moon by astronauts.

The electrical and dielectric properties of the lunar samples are tested by running pulses of electricity through the rocks. In this experiment, both temperature and frequency of pulse are used as variables, with trends in capacitance noted. The results of this study indicate a similarity between the dielectric properties of the lunar materials and earth basalts. This information should be extremely useful in interpreting future Apollo electromagnetic depth-sound experiments.

The age of a group of Apollo 11 lunar samples was determined at MIT by Professors Hurley and Pinson using the rubidium-strontium isochron method of dating. A problem developed when the samples were determined to contain fifty times less rubidium than was originally expected. If the sample was contaminated by as much as one-one-hundredth of a nanogram of foreign rubidium, the results

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Alert fails in Burton House

By Walter Middlebrook

Although the gongs were loud and long, only a small number of Burton-Conner House residents went through some type of emergency exit procedures when the house fire alarm system went off early Saturday morning.

The alarm, which sounded at approximately 6:15 am, was described as three rounds of a series of four gongs. Still unknown to the residents and the people in the Physical Plant, however, is the actual cause of the alarm.

It is believed that of the more than 350 residents of the house one-half of this number were aroused by the early-morning blasts. Yet only 20 to 30 residents went through some type of fire emergency procedure. There have been no detailed explanations of emergency procedures, and only a few Burtons knew anything about the alarm system and the meaning of the gongs.

When it became evident to those responsible for the upkeep of the house that it was only a false alarm, they tried to contact someone in Physical Plant to find why the alarm was sounded. No answer for the alarm has been given as yet except that Physical Plant workers had been working on the system all night in an effort of straightening out bugs already known to be in the system. Kenneth C. Browning, Assistant to Dean of Student Affairs, and Howard Miller, Director of Housing, both showed signs of amazement when contacted by *The Tech* over the weekend concerning the false alarm; with Miller, at least, feeling that he should have been contacted earlier.

According to those in Burton the alarm and call systems of the house are not fully operable at this time, but are intended to wake someone behind two closed doors. When asked why all the residents had not been

awakened by the alarm, Daniel Bloom '72, past president of Burton-in-Exile, stated that since the alarm did not sound long enough and some of the alarm boxes had been cycled down, all the house residents were not awakened.

Although uncertain, Bloom also stated that the four gongs signified a general alarm, but the system is set up to make it known from which fire alarm box the emergency was reported. He also showed a state of concern about the alarm system, feeling that if conditions continue without change a number of residents would learn to ignore future alarms.

Resident attitudes toward the alarm system were typified by one Burton coed who was awakened by the alarm. She declared, "It's so cold in here; maybe the fire will warm things up a little," and turned over and went back to sleep.

Wiesner discusses office; views problems and outlook

By Curtis Reeves

President Jerome Wiesner appeared on television Sunday night to discuss the problems that confronted him as he entered office and his outlook for the coming years.

Interviewed along with Dr. Wiesner on the show, "The New Presidents," were Presidents Derek Bok of Harvard University, John Silber of Boston University, and Robert Wood of the University of Massachusetts. The program was aired by WGBH and was arranged by *The Boston Globe*.

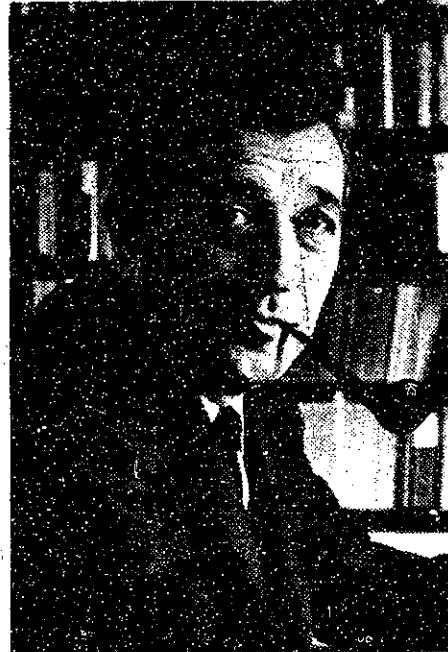
Wiesner's first response was in answer to a question on his biggest worries at the start of this academic year. He stated that MIT is in a difficult situation "because it's an institution focused on science and technology in a moment when those things are in particular question in society." The problems, he said, were in maintaining the momentum and quality of science and technology at the school. As in the case of the other presidents, Wiesner took the problem of fund raising almost for granted.

On the issue of funding America's private colleges, all four presidents were in agreement on the need for federal aid. Commenting on this, Wiesner said, "We'll just have to recognize the important needs for continued higher education for large varieties of youngsters who have not had the opportunity before."

Wiesner pointed out, however, that the answer to America's educational problems did not necessarily deal with enrolling more students per school and further diversifying curricula. "My own view is that too many institutions have become too large," he said, indicating that 10,000 to 12,000 was, in his opinion, the maximum size for a manageable university.

Politics

Emphasis shifted from finances to politics, and Wiesner said of the student turmoil of two years ago, "I think it has made the university a stronger



President Jerome B. Wiesner

place fundamentally, intellectually."

On the question of executive and faculty participation in government, Wiesner's comment was, "I think that people should continue to take an active role. As I look back on my own career in government I have only one deep criticism of myself, and that was I separated my academic role and my governmental role too much." When pressed on the role of the univer-

sity president in active politics, Wiesner stated that the university has suffered from a retreat from responsibility in the last decade. "One can't have respect for intellectual institutions that aren't prepared to take any intellectual leadership. And this focuses right on the president of the institution," he said.

On recent trends in educational reform, Wiesner made the following remarks:

"The movement toward flexibility and freedom of choice is a good one. I think total permissiveness would be totally destructive of higher education, but I don't think it exists... Every student ought to develop different cognitive styles. They have to learn to be logical. I think we are trying to be more sensitive to these issues, while at the same time trying to be intellectually rigorous and honest."

Further, he said, "If one didn't have to make the assumption that four or six or seven years was your total experience with learning, you wouldn't try to jam so much in. The experience would be very different if you could make the assumption that there was going to be some continuing intellectual learning association."



Simplex photos by David Tenenbaum

Razing near complete at MIT's Simplex site

By Norman Sandler

Though razing of several buildings on the Simplex factory site purchased by MIT over two years ago is nearly complete, plans for re-development of the area are still not formalized, according to Institute officials.

The property in question formerly housed the Simplex Wire and Cable Company and was acquired by the Institute in July of 1969. Located three blocks northwest of the MIT campus, it is approximately the size of Briggs Field in total area.

At the time of acquisition then-president Howard Johnson

announced that the property would be "commercial development in the best interest of the residents of Cambridge." Members of the Corporation Joint Advisory Committee (CJAC) assured residents and students that the Simplex purchase was "not conceived as a financial venture" and that it would not be used for academic expansion. Before MIT's acquisition of the plant, which moved to North Berwick, Maine, Simplex employed a total of about 1100 people.

According to O. Robert (Please turn to page 2)

Study due on Simplex site

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 Simha, Institute Planning Officer, the Planning Office is "still in the middle of study work which began last spring." He added that his office's study "is not a plan for re-development, but rather an exploration of the feasibility of CJAC's original goals for the area." Those goals, announced by Johnson's office shortly after the Institute acquired the property, included raising the city of Cambridge real estate tax

base, as well as providing employment and housing development to the community. In outlining CJAC's current position regarding the Simplex project, Professor Hermann A. Haus, a member of the Joint Advisory Committee, said that "CJAC's role is one of advising" and that it "periodically reviews the Planning Office's study of the feasibility of supporting a housing project, with a push towards commercial and industrial development."

Reports from the Planning Office suggest that the nearly eight month-long feasibility study may be completed sometime in the near future, and that an announcement on the fate of the Simplex property may come "within the next two months." However, until then the Simplex property, possibly a future source of development for the residents of Cambridge, will remain approximately eight square blocks of concrete rubble.



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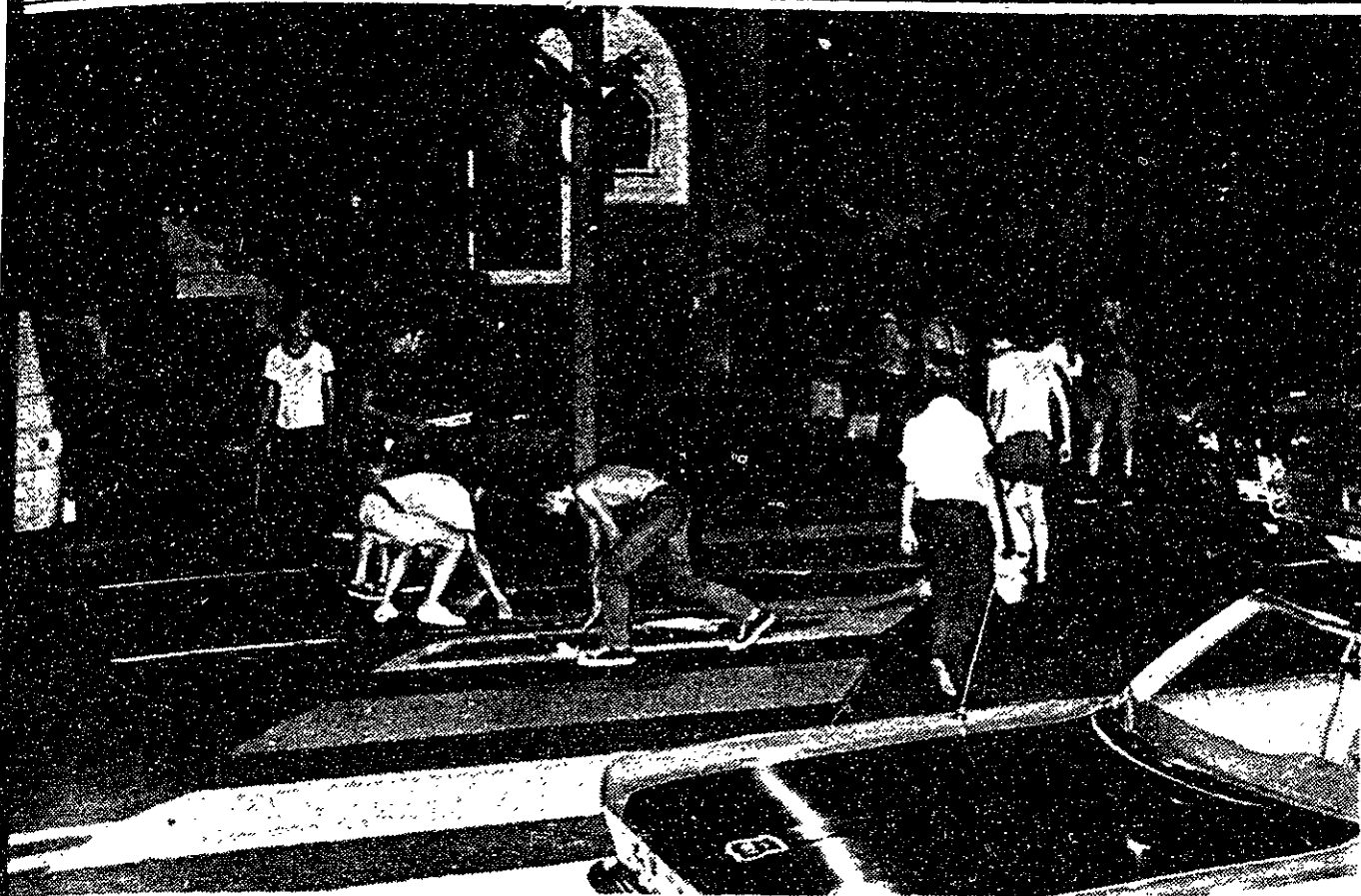
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Twenty-one Sigma Phi Epsilon freshmen painted a tri-colored crosswalk on Beacon St. on a recent morning. A number of the daring students were nabbed by a Boston Police patrol as they sat on the front steps of their fraternity admiring their

work. A well-known Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, when pressed for comment by *The Tech*, would only say: "What can you say about a crosswalk?"

Photo by Jeff Alexander

TCA plans program of teacher evaluation

By Peter L. Chu

This term the Technology Community Association (TCA) will initiate the first Institute-wide course evaluation to be undertaken in the last twenty years.

Questionnaires will be distributed to all MIT students, with a portion of the Institute's computer facilities being used to process the student feedback. The resultant output will be made available to department heads and individual professors for examination, in the hope that it will result in an upgrading of the interest and educational level of MIT courses. TCA is also hoping for some improvement in classroom presentation by the faculty as a result of the evaluation.

The announcement of the proposed survey was made by Bob Churella, TCA president, to new and prospective TCA members in a meeting held last Thursday night. Churella also outlined this year's planned activities and projects. TCA is a volunteer, student run organization which initiates, organizes, and executes major service projects for the MIT community.

Besides the course evaluation program, TCA plans two other new projects for this year. A social information center is the first, intended to provide students with information about lectures, mixers, plays, and other events of interest that are oc-

curing at MIT and all major college campuses in the neighborhood of Boston. No such centralized information service is currently operating.

TCA is also first in line for the stewardship of *How to Get Around MIT*, the all-purpose practical guide to life at the Institute. The Class of '75 edition has already been published and distributed to the freshmen, but the Dean's Office thinks that costs were "a bit high this year" and hopes for a "self-supporting HoToGAMIT" within the next few years. In discussion last spring, assistant Dean Büttner expressed support for a TCA takeover, or for any other student group "willing and able to take over the project." But, there has been a go-slow order from Dean Nyhart (Büttner's boss) because of the importance of the decision.

TCA is looking for anyone who has a sincere desire to make life more livable at MIT.

Scientists study lunar samples

(Continued from page 1)

would be invalid. Furthermore, the small amount of rubidium present made it necessary to achieve a precision of one-tenthousandth. The only way to do this was by computerizing the mass spectrometer and all data-handling.

Once all the equipment was ready, the soil sample was divided into many different size and density fractions. As the fractions varied from the coarser and heavier broken local rocks to the breccia, fused rocks and

soil in the middle fractions, to the soil, made up of glass beads 30 microns or less in size, the age varied from 3.6 to 4.6 billion years. The breccia in the mid-regions seemed to be the fused product of some local impact. The glass beads were probably created by the tremendous heat of some distant impact which then ejected them to the area.

Organic materials

Several tests for organic materials were made at Houston by Professor Klaus Biemann, Dr. Robert Murphy, and Research

Associate Norm Mansuco. At MIT, tests were conducted by Professor Biemann, Dr. Murphy and George Preti. All of them indicated negative results. The first test was to place samples in a biological barrier for forty-five days and to examine them for organic growth. Nothing was found.

A second attempt involved pyrolysis of a sample and then examination of the ions released by a mass spectrometer, using a general survey technique. An analysis of the elemental composition of the materials indicated only traces of carbon compounds such as CO, CO₂, and CH₄ in the part-per-million range. A third experiment involved the solubility of organic molecules, but yielded only impurities in the box in which the samples had been kept.

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NOTES

* The Players Theatre of New England is beginning its fall courses in: mime, impulsive dance, relation of poetry to theatre. Also children and teen classes. For our company we are looking for musicians (rock and classical) and someone who can conduct to be part of an experimental play slated for possible touring. Call: Harvey Grossman or Ruth Mandel, 566-9002, mornings after 11.

* There will be a Welcoming Banquet for Incoming Foreign Graduate Students and their wives or husbands, Wednesday, September 22. The Sherry Hour will begin at 6 in the Mezzanine Lounge of the Student Center followed by dinner at 7 in the Sala de Puerto Rico. President Wiesner and others will speak. All new foreign graduate students and their wives or husbands are invited. R.S.V.P. Foreign Students Office, x3795.

* MIT Rugby Club practices are Tuesday and Thursday, 5 pm, on Briggs Field. Everyone invited. For information call Wayne Book x5095, or Ron Prinn, x2452.

* A Meeting to form a chapter of ZPG (Zero Population Growth) at MIT will be held Thursday, September 23 at 7:30 pm in W20-491.

* First fall meeting of Corporation Joint Advisory Committee (CJAC) will be Thursday, September 23, in the Bush Room (10-105). Agenda will be discussed. This is an open meeting - everyone is welcome to attend.

* Haute Saone Priory, Order of Knighthood for Massachusetts, will hold an Investiture and business meeting on Sunday, September 26, 1971 at 1 pm, in the Fencing Room in the Armory (W31 on the floor above the lobby). Initiation and Life Membership is ten dollars and affiliation is three dollars - candidates are expected to bring this with them. The meeting is open to any member of any Priory, any DeMolay wishing to join, and any Mason. For more information or questions contact Prof. Vitale at x4910 or Fred Duncanson at 387-7684.

* Members of the community interested in singing choral music in an informal singing group (mixed chorus) should call dormline 0990 for further information.

* An open Convention of Cambridge residents will be held this weekend, September 25-26, in Rindge Tech Auditorium, Broadway and Irving Streets, beginning 10 am. Participants will form workshops to write a platform, and there will be a chance to endorse candidates.

* Registration for English Conversation Classes for Foreign Wives at MIT will be held on Thursday, September 23 from 10 am to 12 noon in the Emma Rogers Room (10-340). Classes will be available at all levels of ability. Child care will be provided for pre-school children. If you have questions, call Mrs. Reintjes (484-3595) or Mrs. Meissner (729-5323).

* The introductory meeting of the Staff & Key Society, originally planned for September 20, has been rescheduled for Monday, September 27, 8 pm, at the First Baptist Church, 90 Mt. Vernon Street, in the heart of Winchester Center. Plans and production schedules for the forthcoming Gilbert & Sullivan production (most likely *Yeoman of the Guard* or *The Mikado*) will be discussed.

VOTE

To register to vote:
Cambridge: register at Election Commission, 3rd floor, 362 Green St. (police headquarters bldg., Central Sq.) from 8:30 to 4:30 Monday through Friday; and Tuesday and Thursday evenings, Sept. 21 and 23, 7-9 pm, at City Hall, 795 Mass. Ave. Bring proof of residence since May 2, 1971 (lease, listing in old phone book, letter from landlord, utilities bill). Pending court ruling you must also demonstrate self-support (bring a paycheck), and intent to remain in the city after your studies are completed. If you are rejected, you may request an appeal immediately. For further information or advice call Cambridge Committee for Voter Registration, 661-8661.
Boston: register at City Hall (Gov't. Center). Proof of residence (details same as Cambridge) and statement of intent to remain in the city indefinitely are only requirements.

Residence & residents: what for?

By Bruce Marten

In a technological ethos, all things must serve a purpose, preferably more than one, and as efficiently as possible. Appropriately enough, MIT intends that its undergraduate residence system serve several functions beyond the obvious one of housing its students.

The expressed goals of the Institute's residence system are reiterated year after year in reports and handbooks, never very concretely, with words such as "enrichment," "self-realization," "sensitivity," "creativity," "wholeness." No one seems exactly sure of what these words mean, but the language threads its way through housing and President's reports going back twenty years and more:

We want to develop an environment at MIT which performs in the broadest sense an educational function itself, not in a passive way but in a dynamic way ...

—James R. Killian, Jr. *dedication speech for Baker House, 1949*

... a powerful non-curricular agency can be utilized to facilitate the realization of the full purpose of education ... This agency is the residential system.

—report of the Faculty Committee on Student Housing, 1956

... and I include, too, the sensitivity and understanding that come from close relations with other students and the faculty.

Dr. Julius A. Stratton, *President's Report, 1960*

It is clear that a living environment ... can be a strong instrument with which MIT may pursue the task of educating its students.

—1963 Interim Report of the CSE

The philosophy embodied in these statements has its roots in the concept of general education and the liberally educated man, and their lack of stature in the formal curricula of the Institute. The housing system, like the humanities program, has traditionally been viewed here as an ameliorative and complement to what was lacking in the academic offerings - the non-quantifiable elements of education labeled "humanistic," qualities such as those mentioned by Dr. Stratton in his 1960 report: "character ... judgement, fortitude, integrity - the virtues that mark men as civilized ..."

In other words, if the students spent most of their time in class mastering a body of information and cognitive skills, but very little learning how to interact as social beings, the housing system would remedy that shortcoming in their education through a smorgasbord of social activities. If they developed little rapport with faculty in those classes - if the professors dashed for their labs or their homes in Newton or Winchester after class - students could always drink in the wisdom of their housemasters. If the Institute seemed cold and alienating, the dorms would be homes. If the range of topics covered in an individual student's courses was narrow, his horizons would broaden when he talked with his peers. If his courses demanded primarily individual work, hours of lonely effort, he could develop cooperative working skills by participating in the governing and maintenance of his living group.

In short, the housing program was to produce what the academic program could not: well-rounded people with the practical and social skills, sensitivity and awareness that would enable them to not only get through life with some facility but perhaps to enjoy it as well. The housing system has also been viewed as a place where students could find a kind of

psychic "R & R" away from the intense pressure for high performance in the academic sector.

In terms of these expressed goals, the MIT residence system, especially its dormitory component, must be adjudged a qualified failure.

This is one conclusion that can be gleaned from a close reading of March, 1971, Report to the Committee on Student Environment, entitled "Education and Student Residence: MIT's Undergraduate Residential Program Reconsidered," by Ingrid N. Sommerkorn, postdoctoral fellow in sociology.

This document is based primarily on interviews conducted in April and May, 1970, with seven groups of students from a variety of living groups, and a representative sample of Baker House (36 students, or 10% of the residents of the house).

The study takes a question as its point of departure: "Can a dependent sub-set such as student housing elevate the humanistic element within a technologically-oriented university structure?" (Ironically, or perhaps appropriately, the question is phrased in the un-humanistic language of the social "sciences.")

The answer, of course, is no, because the dominant system inevitably forces its values on all the subsystems. MIT students are not stupid; everyone quickly assimilates the demands of the "hidden curriculum" and, despite a number of experiments such as pass-fail and a lot of rhetoric the past few years, "these reforms have not changed the basic climate of the institution" (Benson Snyder, *The Hidden Curriculum*, 1971, p 66) - which is the ethos of performance.

The residence thus becomes not so much an alternative as a supportive environment in which students develop the various intellectual strategies that enable them to survive the academic struggle. These coping strategies are facilitated by such things as pledge trainers, house libraries of old quizzes, use of upperclassmen who've taken courses as tutors, and the passing on of a body of lore about professors and their styles, demands, etc., toughness of courses, ways to dodge requirements, etc. (Some of these coping strategies have even been institutionalized and given official imprimatur in the aptly-titled publication, "How to Get Around MIT.")

That the housing system helps produce people well-adjusted to the demands of MIT should not surprise anyone; if it started turning out misfits you can bet the administration would start sweating. But what about all that "broadening" and "enrichment?"

The students interviewed - especially the dormitory residents - were skeptical. As one might expect, fraternity men reported more active social lives, more participation in house government and operation, more extracurricular activity. This, of course, has been observed in a general way by many people on college campuses, and may not be so much a direct result of the fraternity environment as of the fact that people who pledge fraternities are generally more gregarious to begin with.

Dormitories, then, come in for the brunt of criticism. Over half the Baker House sample were not positive that dorm life was in any sense "broadening"; though most agreed it was supportive academically. Apparently the students felt that interaction between students from different disciplines was not very broadening because of the bias toward science:

The courses are very much the same; they are science. There are not too many

humanities majors around. The emphasis is on preciseness, etc. This type attitude is prevalent in spite of the differences between the different subjects.

The expectation of meeting with people from different nationalities and backgrounds is also frustrated: minority groups tend to be clannish; the majority of MIT students have middle class origins - and for the freshman, forced room sharing with persons of different life styles may be more stress-producing than enlightening.

All of this suggests that one of the most narrowing experiences for MIT students is that of living exclusively with other MIT students. It may be supportive but it is also competitive, since everyone is in the same game. Sexual segregation, despite the gradual spread of coed living remains and will continue to be a significant problem, especially for the dormies who arrive here intellectually precocious but socially retarded. Left to rot on the MIT campus, chained to a rigorous academic schedule and separated by distance and water from the women's colleges and BU, many may not overcome adolescent shyness for years, if at all.

Sexual segregation is at least beginning to crumble; segregation by age, social class and intellectual caliber is preordained by admissions policy: MIT admits few of the wealthy and correspondingly few of the poor - and of course, no one who doesn't score in the upper percentiles of the SAT. Such an elite (elitist) environment is not likely to foster the ability to communicate and live with the "ordinary" people who inhabit the "real" world. (But then, in a technological bureaucracy, that's the idea ...)

The Baker House sample indicated that the housemaster-tutorial program failed to carry out most of its explicit objectives. About half the students said the system did not increase their interaction with faculty or graduate students; most of those who expressed positive sentiments about the system when queried, responded that they personally had little interaction with the housemaster and tutors. Most students prefer to seek academic help from peers or upperclassmen.

Nor is it surprising that in a house of 360 men only a few developed any degree of intimacy with the housemaster, although he was universally liked. Moreover, these few tended to be students involved in the operation of the house. The tutors were principally valued for their social contributions, rather than academic. No one was very much satisfied with the success of faculty dinners in improving personal relations with faculty members. (Such relations, when they occur at MIT, almost always revolve around shared academic interests.)

Only ten percent of the students reported significant involvement with student government. Moreover, these ten percent tended to be more management, social science and humanities oriented - a representation that is also reflected here by many extracurricular activities. The CSE report does not mention it, but the apathy of students can be linked with the very fact that the dormitories are a supportive environment. The student, if he desires, is sheltered from the necessity of cooking, buying food, hassling with landlords, washing his sheets, and paying the rent on time. Far from encouraging self-reliance, this cocoon can delay the acceptance of responsibility. Hall living, and single rooms, as in East Campus and Baker (and the old Burton), further reduce the demands for social competence. (Please turn to facing page)

by Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



The Wizard of Id appears daily and Sunday in *The Boston Herald Traveler*.

Fraternity & individuality: why not?

By Lee Giguere

By now, most MIT fraternities have inducted a new freshmen (pledge) class and are beginning their attempts to integrate them into their social structure.

"Pledge training," as this process is called, most often aims at inculcating certain values which, in the view of the fraternity, will make the new members "good brothers." Placing fraternities in the context of their members' educational development during their undergraduate years, however, suggests that there may be a major fallacy in the way they view themselves.

The aim of molding "good brothers" out of the new class implies a view of the fraternity as an end in itself. The pledge is expected to strive to become the ideal fraternity brother, to learn respect for the traditions and ideals of the house he has chosen to join. (Admittedly, few fraternities here still put it so bluntly, yet this is what pledge training means.) In other words, the fraternity has come to see itself as an end for its members. Being a "good brother" in the tradition of the fraternity is held to be the ultimate goal of every new member.

This isn't necessarily as bad as it seems. Some of the attributes of the ideal

brother would certainly be considered desirable traits by most people: consideration, responsibility, willingness to assist one's fellows. The traditions of the American fraternity have in fact been drawn from the Christian ethic, although in many cases this origin has been forgotten.

The ideal of being a "good brother," however, is flawed, in that it may supersede one's aim of becoming the best "person" one can. The attitudes of the "good brother" — towards his "brother," while being commendable, do not always extend to people outside of the fraternity. Until quite recently, many houses specifically banned Jews and Blacks from their membership, and even non-WASP's were somewhat suspect.

Still, this problem is becoming increasingly insignificant. The real danger is that being a "good brother" will become an end in itself, stifling the human growth of the brothers.

When examined in the context in which it is found in this country, the college fraternity can be seen to be not an end, but a means through which its members seek to develop their human potential. Young men enter the fraternity just as they are making the final break from their parents and are beginning to establish their identities as independent persons.

Normally, one can assume that the goal of a student who is living in a college living group is to prepare himself to move out into the world on his own. The living group should serve as a sort of "half-way house" between his home-life with his parents and the establishment of his own home. Further, it should enable him to develop his personality more fully than has been possible for him up to that time.

All this means that the fraternity exists in order to provide something to its members, and that when it becomes a hindrance to them, either it should change, or they should leave it.

As each new member enters the group, he should be free from any conditioning by the brothers in an attempt to make him into the kind of person they want him to be; there should be no concerted effort to make him into the "ideal brother." Instead, he should find people who are ready to help him explore his own person; people with whom he can work out his own identity without the fear of rejection. Essentially, this means that the fraternity must provide the insecure person with "acceptance" so that he can begin to establish the security of his personality.

Unfortunately, this gives rise to some practical problems: if the group refrains from dictating to its members the kind of person they should become, it may find that some will choose to follow modes of action that are not conducive to the well-being of the group as a whole. For example, someone may feel that "consideration for others" is not an attribute he wishes to develop. Such a person may become nearly impossible for the group to deal with, yet a concerted effort to prevent the development of such attitudes on the part of new members might abrogate their right to develop as they choose.

In conclusion, the college fraternity should be an outward-looking group. New members should be directed outwards rather than inwards, they should see the fraternity/living group as a means by which they can attain their development, but not as an end to which they can attach themselves.

The ultimate goal of the fraternity should then be for its members to move out. As each person attained the highest level of development open to him within the group, he should see the logic of leaving and should be able to do so without regret, and with some measures of satisfaction at what he had found within the group.

Residence & residents

tence. Suite living reverses this trend, but suites may prove disastrous for freshmen who don't get to choose their suitemates and who are denied the ease of acquaintance which is an advantage of hall living.

The living conditions fostered by the new suite systems have yet to be examined. MacGregor and Burton are the only dormitories developed since the spate of housing reports that began in 1949; they are not analogous to the apartment-like suites of Bexley since they contain more than twice its three or four suitemates. Empirically, however, observers have noted that any residence, apartments included, made up solely of MIT students to some extent exhibits phenomena described earlier — a certain amplification of typical Institute hangups and neuroses when all your problems are carried home.

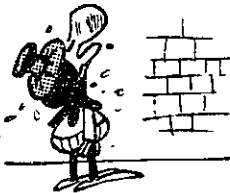
Burton and MacGregor are the first dormitories entirely built under the Housing philosophy. Senior House and East Campus were built before the war; Baker when the policy was still in its formative stages; the old Burton and Bexley were stopgaps, converted apartments. In light of this it is amusing to ask how the new dorms might foster a quality such as creativity, as compared with the older dorms. One considers the imaginative decoration that formerly adorned the walls of Burton and which still runs rampant on the Senior House plaster; then one contemplates the endless scab-colored ceramic of Baker House (not unexpectedly, this was a major beef in the CSE sample) and inviolate paneling and formica in the new dorms, and asks

how much room has been left for creativity in interior design?

At least, with porter service and compulsory commons gone, students in the dorms can cook and clean for themselves.

Whatever one might say about the residence system, in the end an overwhelming fact asserts itself. Neither dormitory nor fraternity maintain their appeal for upperclassmen, who move off-campus in ever-greater numbers as they grow older — 13% in the sophomore year, 30% in the junior year, almost half (48%) by senior year. Perhaps they are seeking more privacy, greater psychic distance from the Institute and its worries, more independence. It would be interesting to find out how many live exclusively with other MIT students; I suspect that would show a gradual shift away from such an arrangement to mixing with other, non-MIT people.

One conclusion is obvious. Housing policy and housing reality at MIT do not coincide. The system achieves other than its stated goals; the people responsible for its planning and maintenance do not fully understand the system. Furthermore, it is ridiculous to expect it to act as a compensatory educational agent for what the academic program leaves out or deemphasizes. The values endorsed by the residence will change only when the values of the dominant system, the Institute itself, change. The CSE report criticizes the MIT Commission Report for failing to deal at all with housing issues in its attempt at "Creative Renewal"; and the question still remains to be answered: Housing — and education — for what?



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ARTS

Concert:

Tracy doesn't eat squid

By Neal Vitale

"I don't know if Mercury screwed us or not... all I know is that they didn't do nothing for us, our records weren't in the stores and there weren't any ads, the average person didn't know we were alive."

Tracy Nelson, Mother Earth

Though Mother Earth has since moved to Warner Brothers/Reprise records, the turnout at the Aquarius Theater last Friday would seem to indicate that

there is still a large number of "average persons" in Boston. Despite more than adequate advertising, and a special offer of admitting college students for only \$1, less than a hundred people showed up for the first show. It's a shame, when a grossly untalented group like Grand Funk could sell out the Boston Garden at \$7.50 a seat, with no ads, in two and a half hours.

Before the show, I had a chance to talk with Mother

Earth's lead singer Tracy Nelson. I found her, not the "tough chick" who's on the album covers, but a kind of low-keyed, baby-faced James Taylor freak who'd offer you Jello (and did). She came on very soft, almost naive, not the type who would have eaten squid (and hasn't).

The following are a few of her random comments that may provide some insight into her, the group, and their music.

"There were... things that made me decide to leave San Francisco. The first time we ever played at the Avalon... after the set, they came up and said, 'You're pretty good, but you're not Janis Joplin.'... I kept getting people coming up almost hostile to me, like where are you at, who do you think you are, trying to sing when there's a Janis Joplin. I thought that was kind of a snotty attitude. There's room for more than one..."

"We got the same thing from Warner Brothers... 'Why don't you make a more commercial album?'"

"I don't smoke anything at all."

"I really dug The Band, and James Taylor's beautiful — there's not too many people currently I like very well. I think *You've Got a Friend* is just exquisite, it just kills me every time I hear that song."

"I'd like to produce; I'd like to produce Irma Thomas, I'd like to do an album... She's not signed with anybody right now, she's not recording to the best of my knowledge, she's just a great singer. Musically, most of my energy is taken up with what we [Mother Earth] are doing."

"I like dogs; we have a lot of dogs. They're wonderful dogs. They're all mutts and they're just great."

"[Linda Ronstadt] has an incredible voice, so pure, and so strong... She was sitting on a sofa, all kind of scrunched up in real bad posture, and hit this high note, way up there, so pure. I couldn't hit the note in a million years if I was standing up and somebody goosed me."

"Well, I'm working on a dog soap opera."

"I just did an album with Earl Scruggs; he had Linda Ronstadt and Arlo Guthrie and myself and John Hartford was supposed to do it... and Randy and Gary Scruggs."

"Carole King's not a very

good singer... she's not a developed singer."

"You're trying to make in your own thing, and when you listen to what everybody else is doing, you really get distracted from what you're doing. You naturally think that what you're doing is better than what anybody else is doing. If you didn't think that, you wouldn't be doing it. So why listen to anybody else, except for the people who influence you, who are rarely your peers in terms of time. So I really don't listen to hardly anything. I haven't even heard the last two Beatle albums."

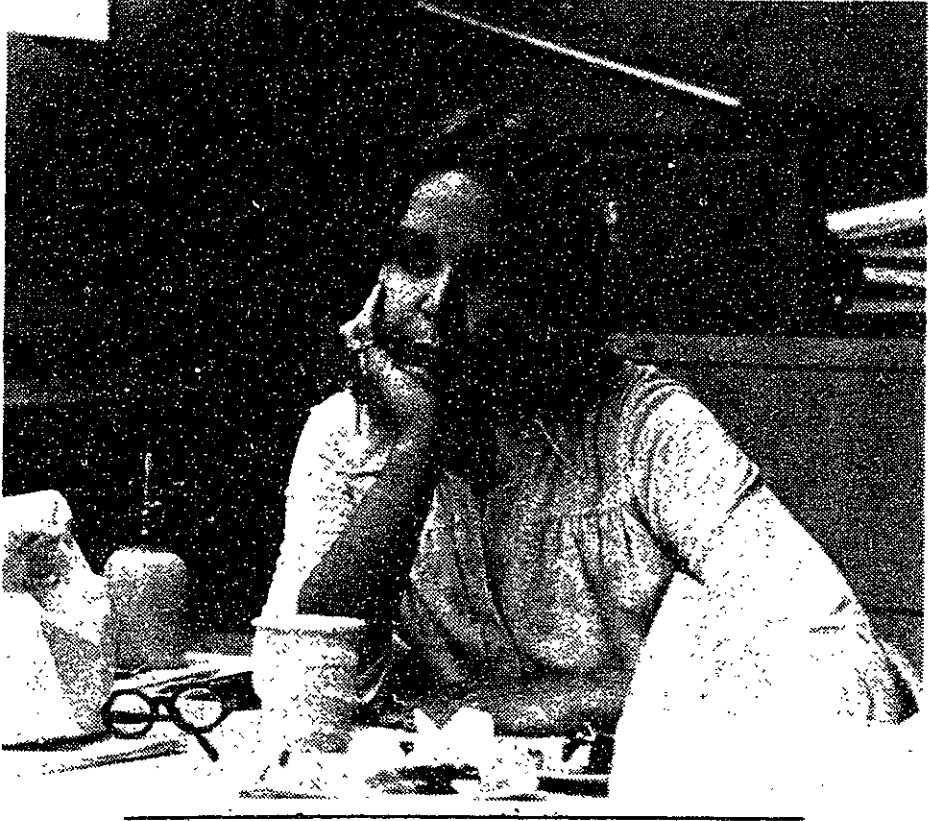
Mother Earth has undergone the usual personnel changes over the years, that have come to be common among most rock groups. Tracy Nelson is the only remaining member from the original group, as it was conceived back in the "psychedelic," "acid-rock" craze of 1967. Being from San Francisco, and having a female lead singer, they attracted more than the usual share of attention and more than the usual Jefferson Airplane/Big Brother comparisons. Whether or not the album was actually good, their first *Living With The Animals*, sold to some degree for whatever the reasons.

They've moved to Nashville, put out more albums, switched record labels, and musicians have come and gone. The group as it appeared at the Aquarius over the weekend has changed since the group's last album, *Bring Me Home*. Tracy Nelson is still on vocals, Karl Himmel's on drums, the bassist is Steve Mendel, the new lead guitarist is Jack Lee, and Andres McMahon plays keyboards. And there is a sixth member of the group, referred to (vaguely) as "Toad" and said to play "tooth." Sadly, he was absent, just having had his appendix removed.

The band showed a fairly wide range of material, ranging from rocking numbers like "I'm Satisfied" and "Temptation Took Control of Me And I Fell" to slow blues as in "Homemade Song" and "Mother Earth" to really beautiful songs such as "Tonight, I Feel the Sky's About to Cry," "Long Gone" (written by Boz Scaggs) and their new single, "Down So Low" (featuring Tracy Nelson on piano).

Unfortunately, there was just something missing. Tracy Nelson has an incredible voice, and her singing ranks her, along with Grace Slick, among the best female vocalists going. On a song like "The Sky's About to Cry," her falsetto at the end of each verse is great, and she belts a blues song as well as anyone. Friday night was no exception, as she actually sounded a bit better than she does on record. Andrew McMahon was excellent on organ, piano, and electric piano; Jack Lee was somewhat better than average on lead. Especially on the blues-rock numbers, the band seemed quite tight, though essentially playing back-up for the lead vocal.

But the electricity just wasn't there. Maybe it was the skeletal crowd, although the few there seemed to be really into it; maybe it was just a little of Tracy Nelson's coolness or fatigue or boredom showing through. Whatever, Mother Earth put on a very good show, although failing just short of exciting. But they are good enough to deserve a much better deal than the one Boston handed them Friday night.



Legit theatre at MIT: Dramashop & the Guild

By Bruce Marten

MIT's two student theatre groups — Dramashop and the newly-organized Musical Theatre Guild — held organization meetings this past weekend and announced their schedules for the coming year.

Dramashop, headed by Professor Joseph D. Everingham, met Friday night in Kresge Little Theater. About 40 people, many of them new to the club, attended. Following remarks by Prof. Everingham and Dramashop president John-Vandermeer '72, they were entertained with a mime presentation of Samuel Beckett's *Act Without Words*, performed by former club president Jay Torney. Afterwards, refreshments were served.

The Musical Theatre Guild attracted about 80 people to McCormick's Country Kitchen with a program including slides, tapes, singing and refreshments. Musical Theatre Committee chairman Jeff Meldman, G, said the Guild was pleased with the large turnout, and reported that 150 freshmen had indicated an interest in musical theatre, the largest representation in several years.

The turnouts for both groups indicate considerable theatrical interest among members of the Class of '75.

The Dramashop schedule this year will feature four sets of one-act plays and two full-length productions. Reflecting the contingencies of MIT's academic calendar, the fall term will contain three of the four one-act productions, often called "nine-day wonders" since they are presented nine days after casting. Dramashop will mount a major production over IAP (last year's IAP project was a highly-successful *Merchant of Venice*) for presentation in early February.

Another major production will hit the boards in late April, with a set of one-acts intervening between the major plays. All Dramashop productions take place in the Little Theater.

The first production was cast last night and will be presented Friday and Saturday nights, October 1 and 2, as part of Inaugural Week. The plays are Lanford Wilson's *The Sand Castle*, directed by Philip Bertoni '73, and *Out at Sea*, by Slawomir Mrozek, directed by Paul Pangaro '73. As is customary, they will be presented free to the public.

The Musical Theatre Guild, which absorbed three predecessor groups (Gilbert and Sullivan Society, Tech Show, and the summer Classical Musical Society) plans two full-scale productions on Kresge's main stage. The first is Gilbert and Sullivan's *Pirates of Penzance*, scheduled for November 11, 12 and 13, directed by Nancy and Mickey Rainier. Auditions are being held this week through Thursday.

The Guild's spring production will be an original Tech Show, a musical (probably comic) written, composed and directed by Guild members. (Anyone can join the Guild.) A call for scenarios will go out to MIT writers soon, probably within three weeks, according to Meldman.

Tech Show '72 will be the first original one since 1969. Lack of ambitious writers caused Tech Show to present *The Fantasticks* (a financial success) in 1970; lack of interest resulted in the organization donating its funds last spring to the Pot Luck Coffeehouse for a token production of *Jack and the Beanstalk*, and, ultimately, its merging into the Guild — which, it is hoped, will foster a revitalization of musical theatre at MIT.



Movie:

Trumbo's "Johnny Got His Gun"

By P. E. Schindler, Jr.

It started life as the anti-war book to end all anti-war books, and now it is a film. If you liked the book, you'll love the movie, and if you haven't read the book yet, you should see it anyway.

It is the first film directed by Dalton Trumbo, who has made sure that the cinematic adaptation is perfectly faithful to the author's original intent, because he is the author. This film is a moving experience, photographically crisp, and well played by almost all of the actors. It may be a reflection of the kind of emotional pain Trumbo went through when he was blacklisted during the witch-hunt of the early fifties.

Johnny Got His Gun has already received international acclaim, and has collected several awards, including three at Cannes, making it the first movie ever to be so honored.

This is easy to understand: it is probably the best anti-war film to date, and considering the number of recent entries into that genre, that is no easy distinction to come by. The film's greatest departure from the beaten path is its worthy efforts to paint the focal character, Joe Bonham, as a real human being, before it goes on to show what war turns him into.

The movie focuses on a quadruple amputee: a man with no arms and no legs. His face is covered with a mask; he breathes through a tube; is fed intravenously; even has his body wastes removed by tubes. He is assumed to be a complete vegetable, but we are privy to his thoughts: as he looks back on his family, his life, and the fortunes of war which put him where he is today. The content of Joe's thought-aloud "speeches" is worthy of the sensitive treatment that cinematic newcomer Timothy Bottoms lavished on them.

The movie clearly and finally establishes, as if any more evi-

dence were needed, the ultimate and complete absurdity of war; yet it does so subtly. Perhaps the most telling statement in the whole film comes during the sequence in which Joe Bonham is imagining what it would be like to be on display as a freak. His thoughts went something like this:

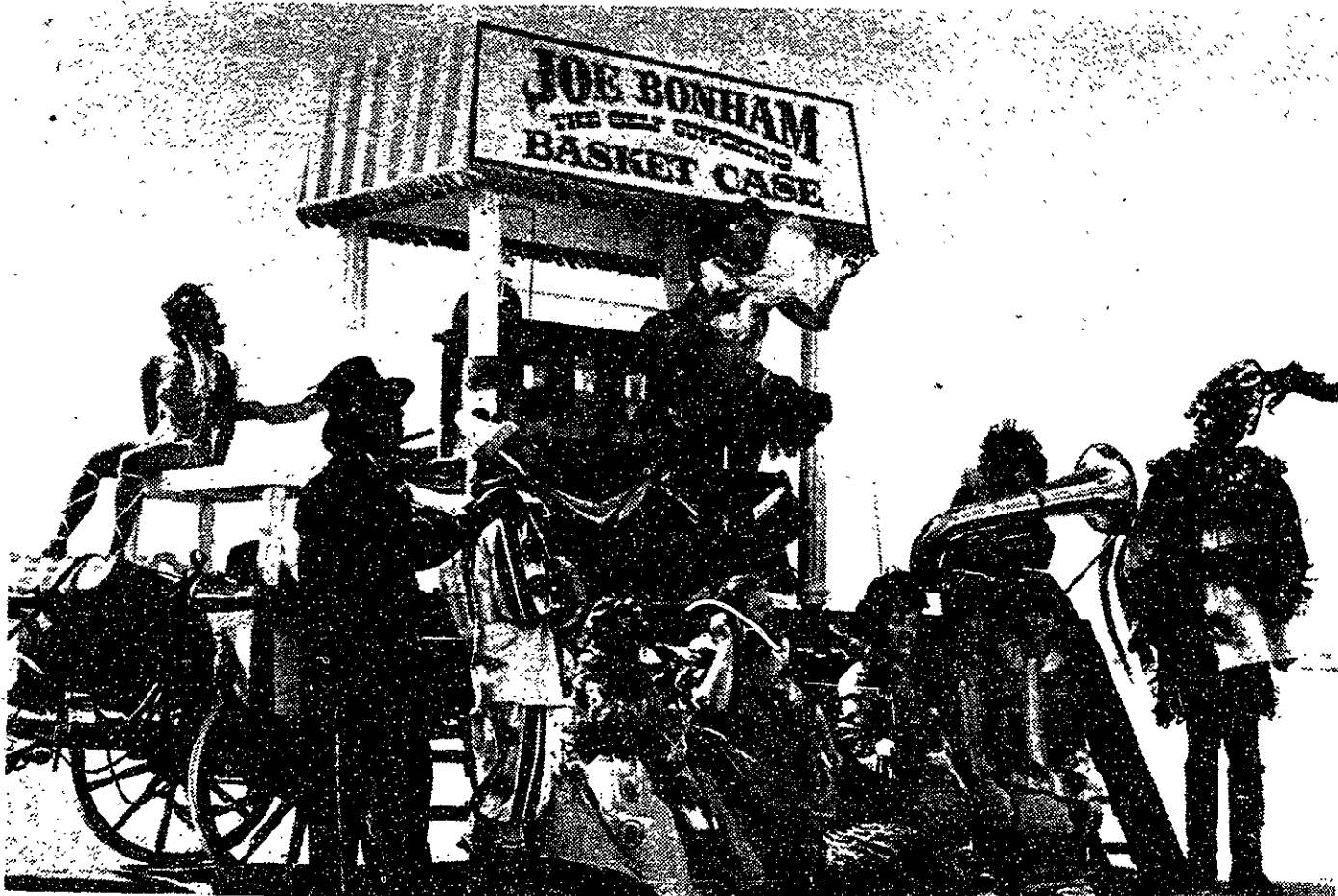
"Just think of how people flock to see freaks in a freak show. But the thing is that these freaks are born that way. No one did anything to them: it was an act of God. But I am a freak by an act of war; I was made a basket case by friends and neighbors, and the folks next door. Just think how they would flock to see that."

Joe's flashbacks alternate between actual events of the past, and real events of the present and future: they involve his family and his girl-friend in his attempts to maintain his sanity in an insane situation. His mind still functions, but he finds himself totally unable to communicate with the people who are caring for him. Finally, he is given the clue he needs, by his father, in an imaginary scene that never occurred: he is reminded of his Morse code experiences during a brighter day, and admonished to "use his head."

Although it's slightly unlikely, Joe establishes his communications link with the outside world by nodding his head to send Morse code. Army officers are brought in, and Joe relays his request: "Put me in a freak show, to let people see what war does. Or kill me." His request is denied on both counts, of course, and the movie ends with a very long, slow fade-out, and Joe's whispered voice saying, "Kill me."

*

Kathy Fields, who plays Kareen, the "girl he left behind," is under 5' and weighs less than 80 pounds. She was in Boston for the preview showing of



Johnny Got His Gun, to speak to the Boston area film critics. At the press lunch following the showing, in Joseph's, there was the customary free lunch in a screened-off portion of the restaurant, in order that we might be more kindly disposed to the film.

In this case, it wasn't really needed. As a matter of fact, several of the critics stated that anyone's appetite could be reduced by the emotional stress involved in viewing a film as moving as this one. Fortunately for this reporter, he recovered in time to take advantage of both the free food and the immediate proximity of the beautiful Ms. Fields, who was, unfortunately, dressed more sedately in person than she was in the film.

Kathy explained that she could, in a way, speak to motivations in making the film, as the crew had been very close, while Trumbo had been very open, during the rocky two-year course which led up to the final person cast as Trumbo began his long search for backers with sufficient courage to put their money behind a film as controversial as the one he was proposing to make. Trumbo finally managed to line up enough capital from various private sources to make a go of it.

The film was an emotionally trying experience for Trumbo, she said, as so much of it is auto-biographical. Kareen is drawn after Trumbo's own childhood sweetheart, and many of Joe Bonham's experiences are actually those of Trumbo's childhood. His style is very

open, compared to most directors, she said; he is willing not only to listen to suggestions, as are most, he is also willing to follow them.

He invited members of the cast to his home when location shooting brought them nearby; this enabled most of them to get to know him pretty well. He often wore a black velvet jump suit, and monogrammed slippers which, taken as a whole, make a stunning outfit.

The conversation then turned to a matter closer at hand: Ms. Fields herself. At 24, this is her first break in films. If the film continues to duplicate the very respectable gross it attained in New York City during the month after its release, she could be on her way to a bright career. She comes from a show biz

family: her father is an agent, her real mother was a child actor, and her stepmother is Polly Bergen. She is currently dating an actor-writer named Roger Garrett.

She had several amusing anecdotes concerning the shooting of *Johnny Got His Gun*, but perhaps the most interesting was her description of the shooting of the desert fantasy scene. The scene was shot on location, on an extremely hot day. Her costume (see picture) included a pair of pasties, supported by glue. Unfortunately, the sun kept melting the glue, resulting in take after take, until enough film was shot to put the whole thing together. *At the Abbey 1.*



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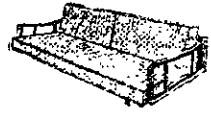
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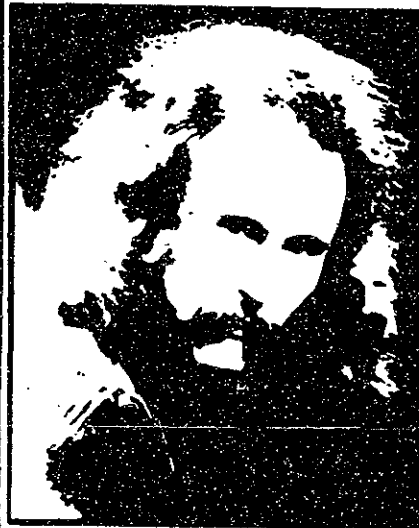
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MUSIC HALL

Varsity, frosh mariners win

By Randy Young

MIT's sailing team opened its season this weekend with a busy schedule that included the New England Women's Singlehanded championships, a dinghy invitational, two varsity sloop regattas, and the first freshman event of the year. The weather was extremely variable, as were the breaks that came the sailors' way, and the Tech mariners' finishes ranged from good to bad.

On Saturday the winds were virtually nonexistent, and a dinghy invitational at Tufts was canceled, but the qualification trials in the women's singlehanded were held in very light air conditions here on the Charles River. Lynn Roylance '72, Shelley Bernstein '74, Gail Baxter '74, and Martha Donahue represented the MIT women, and Lynn and Gail both qualified for Sunday's finals. The pair finished seventh and eighth respectively in Sunday's heavier breezes, as the event was won by Candy Curtin of Newton College of the Sacred Heart, followed by Kathy Boynton of Connecticut

College and Barb Grant of Radcliffe. Maria Bozzuto '73, MIT's top woman skipper and a prime contender for the singlehanded title, was unable to sail in the trials on Saturday and therefore could not compete on Sunday.

On Sunday, coach Hatch Brown and eight members of the men's varsity squad traveled to the Maine Maritime Academy in Castine, Maine, to compete in two sloop events, one in Shields and the other in Mercurys.

Tom Bergan '72, Frank Miller '72, Al Spoon '73, and Larry Bacow '73 co-skippered the Tech entry in the Shields regatta, and won easily over the other three schools, which included the Coast Guard Academy, Maine Maritime, and Bowdoin. Good upwind work and fine spinnaker handling were major factors in the MIT victory.

Steve Cucchiaro '74 with Randy Young '74 as crew, and the co-skipper team of seniors Bob Hart and John Lacy represented MIT in the Mercury event, sailing against a field composed of entries from Maine Maritime, Coast Guard and the

University of Maine/Portland. Cucchiaro won his division, and only a questionable protest in B-division prevented Hart and Lacy from putting the regatta under wraps for Tech. Coast Guard won the event, with the other three schools tied for second place.

A singhy invitational at Boston University on Sunday rounded out the weekend's varsity action, and the MIT skippers fell victim to some rough going, as they finished back in the pack. Sandy Warrick '72, with Kim McCoy '74 crewing, sailed in one division, while Steve Shantzis '72 skippered in the other.

MIT's freshman squad won its first regatta of the year, as the Tech frosh took top honors in an invitational event at Harvard, finishing ahead of Coast Guard and Tufts.

Next weekend features another full slate, as the varsity will compete in two dinghy invitationals and the season's first trophy meet, the Danmark Trophy Regatta at the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut.

The women's team will sail in the Captain's Cup regatta at Jackson and a Novice Regatta at MIT. The freshmen are slated to compete in an invitational at Tufts.



The freshmen heavyweight oarsmen pictured above were the first frosh to row on the Charles this fall. Coach Don Saer (standing) had his men out in the teaching barge, a large flat-bottomed boat that accommodates 16 oarsmen. The barge is handy in the early stages of teaching rowing, as the coach can stand beside each man and closely supervise his technique. Below, frosh light coach Fraser Walsh explains the basics of blade control to one of his candidates working on the rowing simulator.

Photos by Brad Billetdeaux



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SPORTS



Shown below, the fleet maneuvers prior to a start in one of the races of the New England Women's Singlehanded finals at MIT on Sunday. Above, Lynn Roylance '72 heads for the dock after finishing a race.

Photos by Brad Billetdeaux



On Deck

Friday

Baseball (V)—Mass. Bay Community, home, 3:30 pm

Saturday

Sailing (V)—Dinghy Invitational, home, 12:30 pm

Sailing (V)—Danmark Trophy at Coast Guard, 10 am

Women's Sailing (V)—Captain's Cup at Jackson, 2 pm

Soccer (V)—Holy Cross, away, 2 pm

Frosh crews get strong start

One of the things that characterizes fall at the Institute is boatloads of freshmen crew candidates splashing around on the Charles River, learning the fundamentals of MIT's traditional sport. Both crew coaches report heavy turn-outs of enthusiastic Class of '75 men.

Don Saer, frosh heavyweight coach, has almost four full boats of eight men each competing for seats in his first shell. Saer is in his second year of coaching, and as MIT's frosh heavies haven't had experienced coaches too often in the past, this year they are starting out with an advantage.

The perennially successfully speaks their winning season last spring. Frosh lights coach Fraser Walsh is also back for his second year at MIT.

MIT MUSICAL THEATRE GUILD
ANNOUNCES

AUDITIONS

FOR "PIRATES OF PENZANCE"

September 20-23 7:30-11:00 PM Kresge Rehearsal Room

Directed by Nancy and Mickey Rainier

Musicians for orchestra needed (especially strings)

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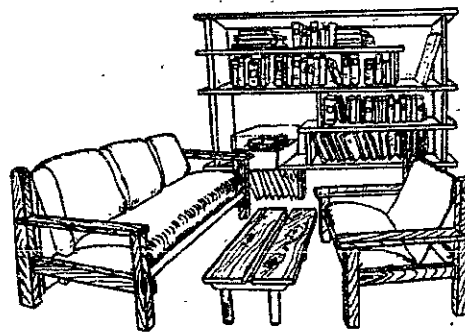
loveseats, lounge chairs, sofas

and convertible sofas; all easily dismantled and reassembled because of our own innovative designs. (A sofa can fit inside a VW bug.)

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