Federal law opens DSA, other records

By Norman D. Sandler
(First of two parts)
MIT officials are drafting regulations to bring the Institute in compliance with new federal laws governing the keeping of records and dissemination of personal information by educational institutions.

The sweeping new law is part of a package of amendments to the Education Act of 1975, passed earlier this year by the Congress and signed by President Gerald Ford Aug. 21.

In a three-page section of the 130-page law, the bill provides for a right to privacy for parents and students with regard to personal information maintained in files of all state, local and private educational institutions which receive public funds under specific federal assistance programs.

All of these agencies and organizations are required, upon enactment of the statute, to make student files available to parents of children under eighteen years of age or to the students themselves if they are eighteen or older.

The privacy provision of the bill becomes effective next school year, once the law becomes effective.

Compliance is required upon the enactment of the statute, to be certied by either the federal Office of Education (which is preparing regulations) or the courts, in inevitable court tests once the law becomes effective.

Among the questions facing MIT officials is whether letters of recommendation used in the admissions process and transferred to Deans' Office files will be open for inspection.

The law states that all students shall have "the right to inspect and review, any and all official records, files, and data...including all material that is incorporated into each student's cumulative folder...including but not limited to identifying data, academic work completed, level of achievement (grades), attendance data, family background information, teacher or counselor ratings and observations." However, the letters of recommendation contained in the admissions files are obtained under agreement that they will be kept confidential, and the question remains as to whether that agreement is voided by the new federal law.
Study shows costs at MIT are highest

By Mike McNamee

MIT has moved into first place as the most expensive college educat-

ion in the country, a recent study by Forbes magazine re-

vealed.

The charges for an MIT stu-

dent during the 1974-75 school

year, according to the magazine, are $5,492 — more than Harva-

rd University's $5,550, Yale Uni-

versity's $5,300, or Columbia

University's $5,115.

The charges were computed on the basis of tuition, fees, and

sticker room and board costs.

The figures were obtained from the colleges surveyed, accord-

ing to Forbes.

But MIT also spends more on

its students, according to a "cost of instruction" figure prepared

by the magazine. MIT's cost of

instruction, based on the ex-

pense of educating one student

for one year, outranks all others

at $8,995. Wesleyan University

ranks second with a cost of

$7,631, while Harvard and Yale

trail with $7,593 and $7,460

respectively.

The figures were part of a table which Forbes prepared with compar-

tive data on several sets of colleges. The table accom-

panied an article detailing

the financial strain now faced by American colleges — a crisis

which now worries MIT officials.

Nukes safer than man: air wreck risk greater

(Continued from page 1)

As the consequences of the accident increase, the likelihood

of its occurrence drop — only one in ten melts is expected to

result in "serious public conse-

quences." Overall, Rasmussen

stated, an individual runs a risk of

one in 300,000,000 of being

killed (with 100 operative US

reactors), compared to a risk of

one in 4000 of being fatally

injured in (by) a motor vehicle

and one in 10,000 of being

killed in a fall.

Critics of the AEC and the nuclear industry contend that estimates of failure probabilities are too low and that reactors present far more of a hazard, Rasmussen's group used failure

Class of 1975 Senior Yearbook Portraits

Tuesday — Friday, Oct. 15 — 18

For appointment, call x3.2980

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Sitting fee: $3.00
Blexley to be removed - but not soon

By Mike McNemes

Blexley Hall, the old apartment building-turned-dormitory across Massachusetts Avenue from Building 7, might be a casualty of the Institute's building plans within a few years.

The building, which was converted for dorm use by the Institute in the mid-1960s, will be removed from the underground housing system and probably destroyed if or when MIT has the housing capacity to allow removal, according to plans developed by the MIT administration.

Although the Institute has always considered Blexley "temporary housing" and plans for phasing it out of the system are not new, these plans have taken on a new significance with the construction of a new dormitory on West Campus near MacGregor House.

That dorm, which is scheduled to be completed in September, 1975, will house 300 students, and will help relieve MIT's present housing crunch and take some of the strain off the housing system.

But even with the new dorm, Blexley apparently will not be needed by MIT, and so will survive longer.

"If several factors remain as they are at present," said Vice-President Kenneth Wadleigh, "we will need at least 250 beds beyond the capacity of the new dorm to meet the housing demand sufficiently that we can phase out Blexley." Producing those 250 beds, Wadleigh said, would require construction of another dorm - construction that is being studied, but not planned for the near future.

Factors that must remain constant, Wadleigh said, include present class sizes, return rates of upperclass students in the dorms, fraternity capacities, and housing policy. Of these, Wadleigh said, the housing policy is most likely to change, Wadleigh said.

"We've had tremendous battles in the last two years over the class sizes, and the Dean's Office (which administers the housing system) has won," Wadleigh said. "But the whole question of whether we want to keep the policy in place is open to question."

When Blexley is removed from the system, it will almost certainly be destroyed. "That building is in tough shape," Wadleigh said. "There's little we could do by way of renovating it, like we did Burton or Ashdown."

The MIT Planning Office has considered a number of possible uses for the site, but nothing concrete has been settled, Wadleigh said.
In Case of Insomnia

Nuclear Safety

By Storm Kauffman

For all you doubters out there (shame on you), this is one subject about which I know something.

Who picture nuclear reactors with overflowing mushroom clouds have a reason well founded in the danger of the reactor hazard. A reactor cannot explode, it can, however, melt down, submerging itself in a melted core of radioactive material.

The danger lies in the massive quantities of radioactive materials held in the core of a reactor that has failed. The radiation exposure to anyone in that vicinity is safe; anyone farther away, however, is in grave danger.

The nuclear reactor industry has grown up amidst the most stringent design and operating license requirements of any industry. Unfortunately, the Atomic Energy Commission was created by Congress to not only regulate the nuclear industry but also to promote its growth. These two somewhat contradictory functions have opened the AEC to sometimes valid claims of conflict of interest.

The safety designs of reactors are directly tied to the complexity of the plants. The cost of the plant goes into this redundancy and other emergency systems. The AEC is required to require more and more complicated backups, but the industry is reaching the limits of diminishing returns on safety (spending millions for infinitesimal improvements).

As Professor of Nuclear Engineering at the University of Massachusetts, Dr. Charles Rasmussen (head of the recent REactor Safety Study) has done extensive research on the subject. He must decide if this money might not be spent somewhere else and save more lives by that same token.

Anyway, one of today's reactors represents a combination of backup and safety systems which are designed to prevent the release of the radioactive core. In over 200 reactor years of operation, one reactor operating for any period of time. Nuclear proponents and opponents alike agree that this ratio is inhumanly low.

The reactor cannot be directly killed by a reactor. Delayed safety systems which are designed to prevent a reactor from endangering the public. The Rasmussen safety study, which is one reactor operating for any period of time. Nuclear proponents and opponents alike agree that this ratio is inhumanly low.

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UA Section

Letters To The Tech

Completing I's

To the Editor:
The article in last Tuesday's The Tech on new procedures to be followed by the Committee on Academic Performance regarding completion of Incompletes by senior will be very helpful in alerting students who may be affected by these changes. Although I was quoted with admirable accuracy by your reporter, the article did not spell out all the details of the Committee's resolution. We have prepared a memorandum on this subject which is being mailed to all students currently registered as seniors. Since a few seniors who are not yet registered as seniors may also be eligible for degrees this year, we have no doubt missed a few who should have received the memorandum.

For those students, copies of the memo can be obtained from the CAP office, Room 10-191.

James L. Kinsey
Chairman, CAP

[Part of that memo is reprinted below]

Subject: Special Deadlines for Completion of Work by Degree Candidates

Over the last few years there has been a growing number of problems of uncertainty in the records for some students on the degree list at the time the Committee (on Academic Performance) meets to approve undergraduate candidates for degrees. This has resulted, in a couple of instances, in students being removed from the degree list and not receiving their degree when they had in fact completed all the required work in time, and there have been many more near misses of this kind. In the hope of forestalling repetition of these difficulties in the future and thereby reducing the risk of a student being removed from the degree list erroneously, the CAP has outlined the following procedures to be followed by graduating seniors in making up previous work required for their degrees. These deadlines will be adhered to by both the CAP and the Registrar, and failure to meet them will result in the delay of the degree.

1) Completion of Incompletes

According to the Rules and Regulations of the Faculty, work for completion of the grade of I in lecture subjects must be completed not later than the end of the fifth week of the succeeding term of the regular school year. For design subjects and Electrical Engineering Laboratory subjects the deadline is the end of the academic term succeeding the one in which it was received, and for Electrical Engineering Laboratory work the deadlines is one year from the date it was received. Beyond these limits, Incompletes may only be completed by successful petition to the CAP. The CAP will implemenet these Faculty rules for seniors in their final term in the following ways:

A. For Incompletes received in the previous term in lecture subjects, the five-week deadline will be strictly adhered to. This current term only will be treated as a special case in that the deadline for completion of work will be set at Drop Date (November 27, 1974).

B. For all Incompletes requiring action of the CAP on a petition, the Committee will insist on receiving all such petitions by the end of the fifth week into the term. Each such petition must be accompanied by an agreement, signed both by the student and the instructor in charge of the subject, giving: (a) a date by which the work is to be completed and handed in to the instructor and (b) a date by which the instructor agrees to submit a grade to the Registrar's Office. In no case is the agreed-upon date for submission of the grade to extend beyond the last day of the term as defined below. For the present term, the deadline for submission of a petition will be extended to the Drop Date.

C. For Incompletes in Laboratory and Design subjects still within their statutory limits, the CAP strongly urges that each student intending to complete work submit to the Committee the same kind of agreement described in the previous section.

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You have my attention. Now tell more about the MINI-MEMORY or FX-10.

Name
School
State
City

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1974 PAGE 5
Police Blotter

Police Blotter is a weekly compilation of Campus Patrol Activities on and off the MIT campus. Items for the Blotter are selected by the Patrol.

10-1-74
A report was received of the attempted larceny of a motor vehicle parked on Memorial Drive in the vicinity of Burton House. The right window was forced and the ignition had been removed. The MDC was notified of this attempt.

10-3-74
The Campus Police was notified of an assault and battery that had been committed on a female employee of the preceding day. The incident occurred in Building 7 on the fourth floor hallway. A description was taken of the offender and patrol officers were directed to check this area.

10-3-74
An occupant of Building 3 reported the removal of a lock from a door early in the evening and the larceny of the door at a later time. The Campus Police were seeking both the lock and the door.

10-3-74
A report was received of the larceny of a camera valued at $550 from a locked room in the Ashdown House. There was no evidence of a breaking and entering into the room. The occupant stated that the room was secure when he left and when he returned.

10-4-74
An occupant of MacGregor House reported the larceny of a telephone from outside his room. The owner stated that the telephone was left outside his room during the night for the benefit of the fellow students. The possibility of the phone annoying the students in the immediate area was taken into consideration during the investigation.

10-5-74
The Campus Police were notified of a female who had been picked up hitchhiking on Mass. Ave., near Central Square and was at present opposite the Killian Court on Memorial Drive and was threatening to jump into the river. The subject was taken into custody by the Campus Police and turned over to the MDC Police to be transported to the Mass. General.

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SELF DEFENSE CLASSES
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MARTER GM J. BER
M. DIRECTOR STAFF
of the
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The scenes make 'Last Tango in Paris' look like a sixth grade dancing class.
Sometimes pornographic, generally subversive, but always brilliant.
An important film.

Going Places

Starts
Wednesday
October 9th

The Mitre Corporation
Equal Opportunity Employer M/F
Shouts win for LCA & SAE

By Darwin Fleschaker

The first half of the intramural touch football season came to an end last weekend as 66 of the teams once again went through the grueling ritual required by the sport in order to attain the number one position in their respective league.

In a league competition, SAE and LCA were once again both victorious, with SAE outscoring Phi Gamma Delta, 14-0, and LCA beating the Black Student Union, 13-0. Once again both games were heavily laden with penalties.

The second game, which took place later in the day, was one to remember. Twenty minutes into the second quarter when LCA’s Proper intercepted a BSU pass, who, on the ensuing kickoff, kicked the ball to the BSU goal line, BSU had to work long and hard to get back into scoring position.

The other good LCA performance came from Jim Ogletree and founder of T.V. program, Mr. Stephen L. Hussein, media consultant and chairman of the board.

IM Soccer Standings:

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IM Football results:

Richard Wachnick ‘76, a running back for 61 league’s Senior House/Graduate team, carries the ball in IM football action. Senior House/Graduates has yet to win this season.

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Lecture Hall 9-150
Thursday, October 17, 1974
5:15 P.M.

Access!

Melvin H. King

Associate Director, Community Programs

at M.I.T. and State Representative from

Wards 4 and 10.

Respondents: Mrs. Bernice J. Miller, Associate Director

Center for Ur ban Studies, Harvard.

Mr. Stephen L. Hussein, media consultant

and founder of T.V. program, "Black News."
Richardson leads barriers

By David Debon

Sophomore Frank Richardson led the MIT cross country team to a 27-28 upset victory over the University of New Hampshire Wednesday at Franklin Park.

The Engineer runners displayed a prowess not seen in many years. All but one extended MIT's winning streak to 13.

Richardson won his third dual meet in as many tries, highlighting his strongest competitors in a time of 25:04.

The victory over UNH, a Division I university (MIT competes in Division III), the Engineer's first place finish since 1976, and an undefeated dual meet record thus far. His first place finish on the course was changed from 4:7 to 4:7 by the Boston Athletic Association.

Richardson, now fully healthy after an early season illness, ran a phenomenal race, placing 4th (2nd for MIT) in 25:32. Jeff Baerman '76, captain of the varsity, captured the victory in 24:51. Following Baerman to the finish was Al Richardson '77 and Jeff Baerman '76. Svendsgaard went on to finish fourth in the race.

Frosh gain sailors’ solo success

By Ilia Kobylyak

The MIT sailing teams participated in five regattas last weekend, highlighted by a first place finish in the University of Rhode Island Invitational.

Senior skipper Marty Lorrie and Wally Cowrin placed first at URL; Lorie won low point extend MIT's winning streak to three.

The next race on this fall's racing schedule is the Head of the Charles Regatta on Sunday, October 27.

This year's regattas should be the most important in ten-year history with the expected entry of the USSR National team, the strongest entry from this nation's best oarsmen.

The race start at noon near the BU ball field finish three miles upstream near the WBZ tower on Soldier's Field Road.

The MIT women's team also benefited from the annual event and improved their winning ways in the Senior Women's class. The women's varsity placed fifth in the nation, 25 points behind Tufts (43), with BC (27), MIT (31), and Brown with 25, BC 27, MIT 31, URI 51, Yale 120, Harvard 167, and New Hampshire 198, URI 105, Yale 120, Harvard 167, and New Hampshire 198.


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