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The Tech

Usually it's just the
audience that smells
at an LSC movie.
(See story, lower left)

VOLUME 95, NUMBER 25

MIT, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

TUESDAY, MAY 13, 1975

65 advisors sought for record-size class

By William Lasser

Sixty-five additional advisors are being sought by the Freshman Advisory Council (FAC), to accommodate the class of '79, the largest ever to enroll at the Institute.

Although the FAC could "get by" with only 30 more advisors, according to Pete Buttner '61 executive officer of the FAC, 65 more advisors (raising the total number to 270) would give each advisor an optimal number of advisees.

According to Buttner, the advisor shortage is "a standard problem," and "with the help of department heads, the goal will be realized."

The number of graduate students serving as freshman advisors will be doubled next year, with over thirty serving for the class of '79. A Faculty affiliate will be working with each graduate student advisor and will "work with the advisor and his advisees in any way that seems appropriate during the year," said Buttner.

He added that he expects the position of advisor-affiliate to spur new faculty interest in advising because it will give newcomers a chance to try advising without as many responsibilities as the advisor himself.

Letters were sent to faculty members in April, Buttner said, asking professors to consider advising. This campaign brought forty volunteers between April 23 and May 7. Department heads have also received letters asking them to ask department members to become advisors.

In addition to faculty, some administration officials, such as admissions, personnel and financial aid officers are being sought as advisors. Alumni are also represented.



About 200 people came out into the sunshine Sunday to hear the Silver Star Steel Drum Band playing on the steps of the Student Center.

MIT contract with Saudis stalled

By Mike McNamee

Institute officials are awaiting the return of MIT negotiators from Saudi Arabia to assess the failure of discussions with the Saudis on a \$2 million research

contract.

The two-year-long negotiations for joint study of water resources and electrical power generation needs by MIT and Saudi researchers broke down recently, apparently due to disagreement over a contract clause on admission of MIT researchers to Saudi Arabia.

Saudi officials refused to sign the contract after Prince Mohammed ibn Faisal, chairman of the Saudi group, received what he called a "threatening" letter from President Jerome B. Wiesener. The Saudis were thought to have objected to a contract clause providing that any competent MIT researcher be permitted to enter that country.

Saudis have in the past refused entrance to Jews and persons who support the Zionist view of Israel as a religious state with historical rights to Palestine. Several major American companies have been criticized for dealing with Saudis on such terms, thus discriminating against Jewish employees.

Not only issue

MIT officials stressed, however, that the discrimination issue was not the only one which there had been disagreement on, and that they were waiting for a fuller report from Professor of Civil Engineering William W. Seifert, head of the MIT negotiating team, to assess the failure of negotiations. Seifert has not

yet returned from Saudi Arabia.

"All we know is that Seifert took over a final contract, and we got a short cable saying that they had not accepted it," Wiesner told *The Tech* yesterday. "I would surmise that it was the discrimination problem, but I don't want to conjecture until I've had a full report."

Wiesner refused to comment on the letter which the Prince had termed "threatening," saying only that it was "a general letter" discussing the contract and thanking the Prince for his correspondence.

J. Herbert Holloman, director of the MIT Center for Policy Alternatives, the group which would have administered the program, said the discrimination problem was an important issue in the negotiations, but was not the only one. "We have had disagreements with them on publication, arrangements for terminating the contract, payment, and MIT's right to judge the competence of the Saudi researchers who come here," Holloman said. "Discrimination was not the only issue by any means."

Holloman said that MIT had not been told directly that the Saudis might discriminate against researchers, but that the negotiators were aware of past examples of discrimination. Thus, he said, MIT tried to prepare a contract "which would protect the integrity of our people working over there."

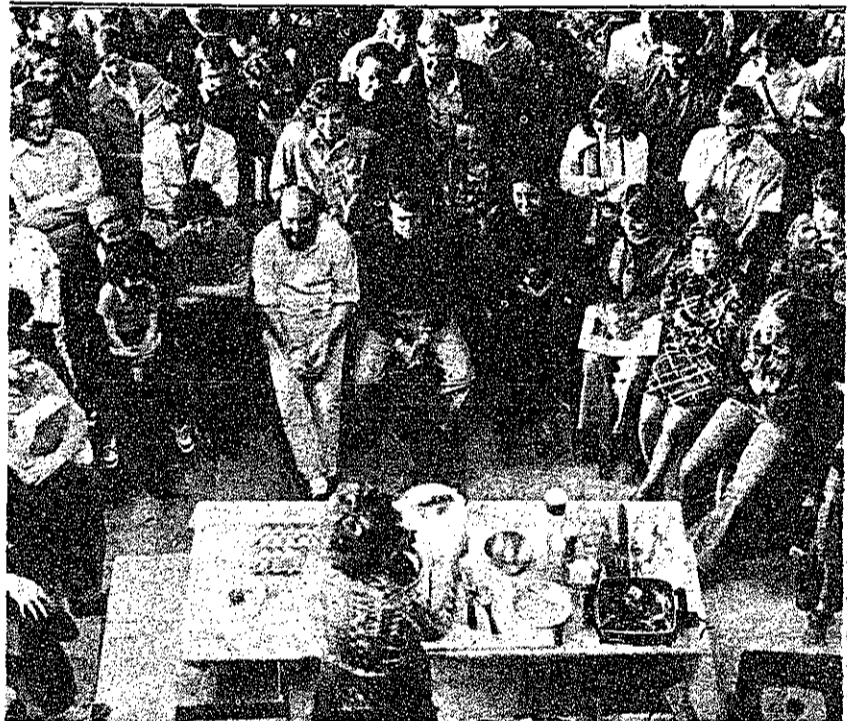
Joint studies planned

The contract, Holloman said, would have enabled MIT to work on two- to three-year studies of Saudi needs for water and power. The research would have been conducted at MIT and in Arabia, with researchers from the Institute and Saudi universities working on the studies.

About 14 "full-time-equivalent" researchers - faculty, staff, and some students - would be working with the Center on the project, Holloman explained. They would construct and test models for usage of resources in an effort to help the Saudi government plan for future needs.

The contract was planned with the Saline Water Conversion Corporation, of which Prince Mohammed, a son of the late King Faisal of Saudi Arabia, is chairman. That corporation is in charge of developing facilities for desalting sea water and purifying ground water for the country's growing urban needs. The Saudi government is planning to invest about \$10 billion over the next ten years into water resource development.

One problem in negotiating the research contract, Holloman said, was that it was one of the first contracts the Saudis have ever negotiated for research services. "They have bought services for things like building dams before, but have never dealt with academic institutions on a large scale." (Please turn to page 2)



Uses and abuses of the Building 7 lobby, including crowds and exhibits that block access to the main corridor, have been under consideration by the Lobby 7 Committee. The committee plans to try to formulate guidelines for future exhibits. Story, page 5.

Stink bomb forces LSC to relocate Sun. movie

By Gerald Radack

An apparent prank caused the first showing of the Sunday night Lecture Series Committee movie to be moved from Room 26-100 in between reels and almost caused cancellation of the second showing.

The 26-100 lecture hall was hastily abandoned and the city fire department rescue squad called in after the air there became filled with "noxious" gas that resembled "sulfur compounds," according to several witnesses.

"The rescue department was called because there was a concern it might be city gas," according to Safety Office Director John Fresina. A check of combustible gas detectors revealed, however, that there was no gas from that source.

Campus Patrol Captain Richard Driscoll said that Campus Patrol officers who were called to the scene reached the opinion that the gas "had nothing to do with any labs," and was "possibly a stinkbomb."

Driscoll noted that the Patrol has no evidence that a stink bomb was set, and is not actively pursuing an investigation of the incident.

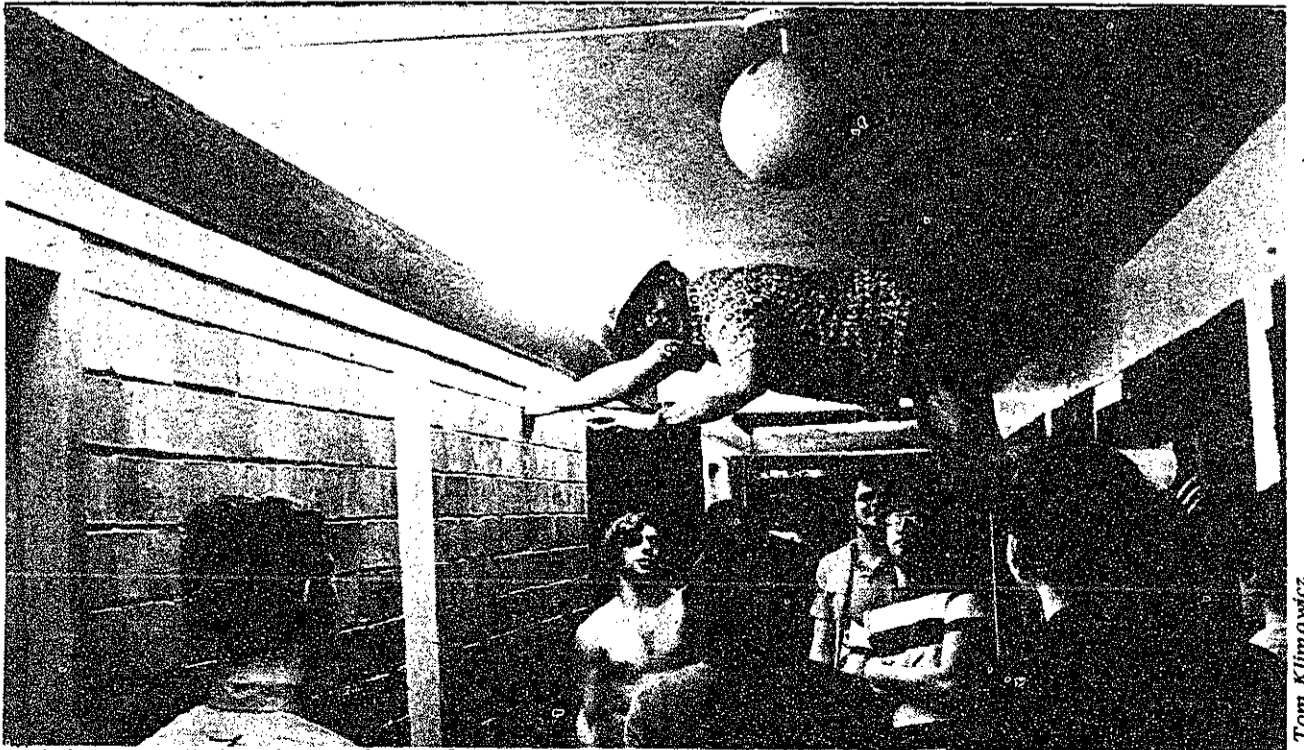
"To the best of my knowledge, someone set off a stink-bomb near the air intake for 26-100," Fresina said.

Fresina attributed the stink bomb to "spring fever," pointing out that a stink bomb was also set off in the Student Center Sunday night.

LSC cancelled the second showing of the movie, "Bedazzled," at the end of the first showing, which was completed in 10-250, when the gas started to seep into that room through the ventilation system. Later, however, the second showing was held in the Student Center.

LSC did not charge admission to the crowded second showing, causing an estimated loss of \$100, according to Thomas Bracewell '76 of LSC.

"Under the circumstances," Bracewell said, "we felt obligated not to collect tickets."



Walking on walls is only one form of entertainment in Baker House. For others, see photo essay on pages 6 & 7.

Police hunt suspects in assaults

Boston police and federal agencies are still searching for a man named as having participated in the March 22 assault of two MIT students.

One of the students, John L. Asinari, died of injuries suffered in the assault. The other student, Robert Moses '75, was hospitalized with serious injuries in Peter Bent Brigham hospital in Boston. Moses has since been released from the hospital and is said to have fully recovered, although he still has a small cast on his left arm.

The man being sought, John J. Blodgett, 23, of Methuen, was indicted by a Suffolk County Grand Jury for murder and assault with a deadly weapon along with Robert Shaughnessy, 23, of South Boston, who has been apprehended by Boston Police.

The police were joined in their search for Blodgett by the

FBI when it was learned that he might have crossed state lines in eluding arrest. An effort is also being made to identify two other persons who were allegedly with Blodgett and Shaugh-

Campus Patrol Chief James Oliveri noted that the \$5000 reward for information leading to Blodgett's arrest or concerning the two other suspects is still being offered.

Updates on the news

Shaughnessy is presently being held without bail at the Charles Street Prison in Boston. No date has been set yet for his trial, which is to take place at the Suffolk County Supreme Court. Campus Patrol officials predicted that the trial will probably begin "before July," though they added that it might be delayed until after September.

Asinari and Moses were returning from Kenmore Square attempting to hitchhike back to MIT when they were offered a ride by their assailants. Moses reportedly told Boston Police that he and Asinari were driven through Boston, Chelsea, and Everett and were stabbed and beaten in the car before being ejected in South Boston.

In response to this incident, the Campus Patrol has produced a poster warning students of the potential hazards of hitchhiking. Copies of the poster have been distributed around campus.

Saudi talks break down on discrimination clause

(Continued from page 1) scale," Holloman said. "The two activities aren't comparable."

Discrimination

According to a recent *New York Times* report, Saudi law requires all applicants for entry visas and resident permits to state their religious affiliation. No visas may be issued to a Jew by any Saudi consulate without explicit permission from the Foreign Ministry of that country.

Despite this ban, some Jews have been allowed to travel in Saudi Arabia, especially journalists and other Americans who have expressed views sympathetic to the Arabs. But the visa ban has taken its toll on other academic institutions including Harvard and Johns Hopkins universities, which have discussed exchange programs with the Saudis.

According to MIT officials, a second discrimination issue — discrimination against women — has also entered into the Saudi talks. In Arabia, a strictly Moslem country, women were not allowed to deal with men as equals.

Won't hurt other talks Wiesner said that he did not know of any other negotiations with Mideast countries that might be damaged by the failure of the Saudi talks.

"We have continuing discussions, of course, with the Iranians, but I don't think they will be bothered by this," Wiesner said. "Other countries in that area have approached us from time to time on development issues, but we haven't any talks that have reached a serious stage yet." Wiesner stressed that negotiations on research programs, even international programs, often are begun with individual faculty or centers, and don't come to his attention until they are nearly completed.

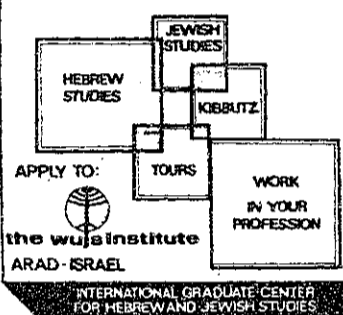
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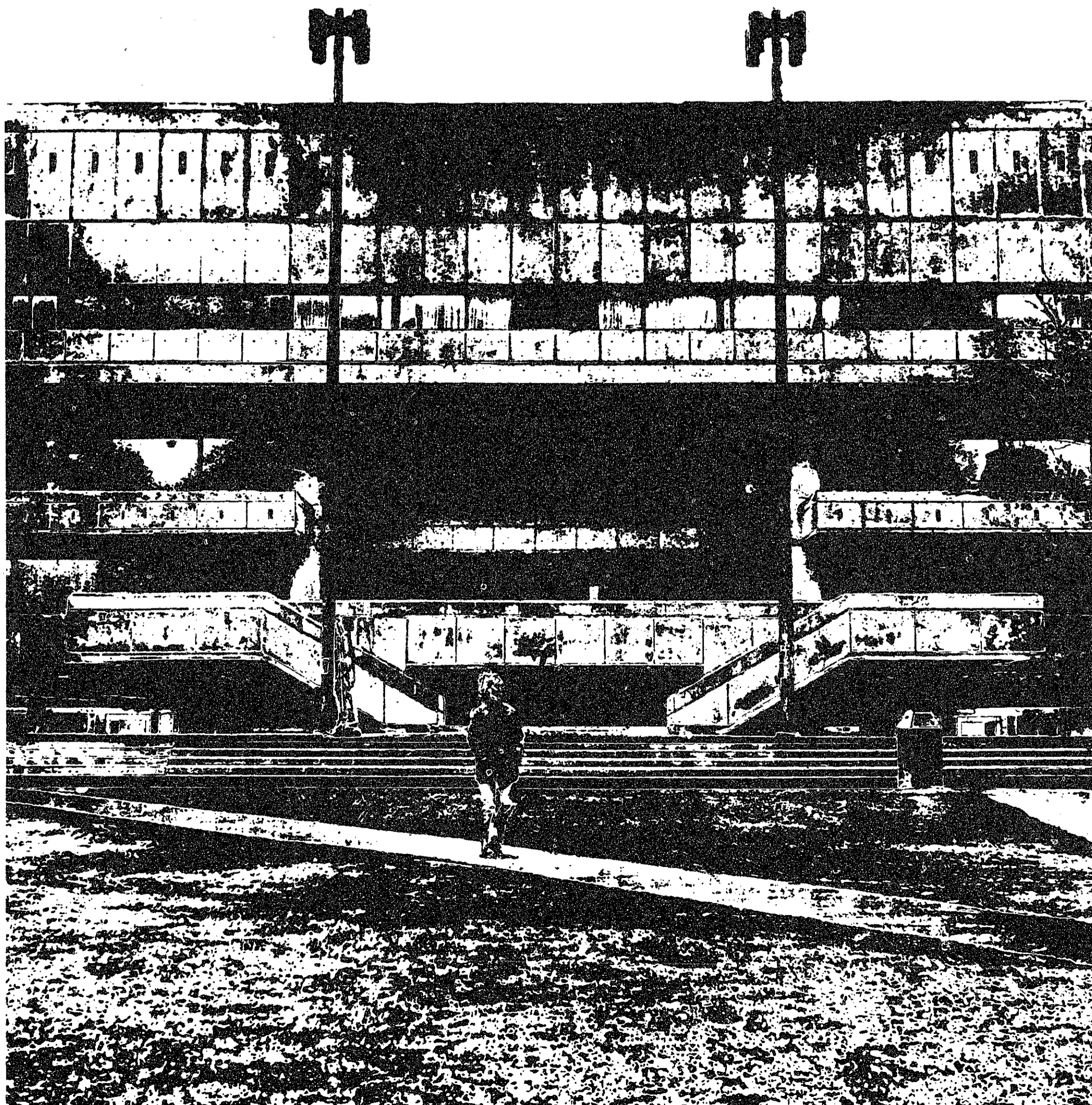
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Opinion

MIT's foreign policy: careful consideration

By Michael McNamee

The recently-revealed negotiations between MIT and Saudi Arabia, negotiations which broke down apparently over the issue of Saudi discrimination against Jewish MIT researchers, illustrate that the Iranian nuclear engineering program which caused so much stir on campus this semester isn't going to be an isolated case of "foreign policy" for MIT.

The proposed Saudi program would have contracted MIT to a straight-forward piece of technical research: assessment of Arabian needs for water and electrical power, and development of plans to meet those needs. It involved nothing as explosive — pardon the pun — as nuclear proliferation, "buying" of an academic department or of admission spaces, or the politics of the contracting government.

But even such standard research, when translated into the context of dealing with a foreign government, raises political and moral issues which must be fully addressed before such contracts can be entered into. To the administration's credit, MIT has stood its ground in opposing Saudi discrimination against Jewish and women researchers — a stand that might have cost MIT \$2 million contract.

The two examples seen this term of MIT's foreign dealings show that the Institute must move quickly to develop a "foreign policy" — a set of policies, procedures, and considerations to be used when dealing with foreign agencies, especially foreign governments. The guidelines laid out in MIT's past studies of outside commitments — the Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Outside Commitments, Policies and Procedures, the Commission on MIT Education, and so forth — do not deal adequately with the host of issues that arise when the contracting agent is foreign, not American another government, rather than NSF or the Pentagon.

There are a number of steps which the administration could take to make the upcoming review of such a foreign policy — most of which, unfortunately, will be conducted over the summer when the student population is low and many faculty members are away — more meaningful. They are all based on the premise that MIT policies should be founded in public discussion and debate, rather than simply formulated by administrators and silent committees of faculty.

The first is that the administration should heed the spirit of the first half of the student referendum which passed overwhelmingly — 1000 to 200 — on April 15. That measure called

for complete revelation of all planned MIT programs with Iran, besides the nuclear engineering plan. While the administration has heeded the letter of the referendum — the community was told of four other proposals being discussed — little has been said of the backgrounds of the plans, the nature of the discussions, or their status.

At the same time, other negotiations are going on throughout the world between MIT and foreign agencies that the administration isn't talking about. Their position is that these aren't secret — they just don't talk about them. A full list should be prepared and published, giving in some detail the status and backgrounds of the talks.

Similarly, a report on past foreign deals, past foreign contacts and offers, and the history of MIT's international commitments should be prepared and released. There is almost no information available on this topic anywhere. While, presumably, the committee on international commitments will be informed of these things, the whole community deserves to be told, both to participate in the discussion and to be able to judge the recommendations of the committee when it completes its work.

Finally, there should be a moratorium on foreign contracting until the committee releases a report acceptable to the faculty and establishes mechanisms for dealing with such programs. The administration says that it has been judging past offers from abroad on the same grounds as any domestic research contract — grounds which, in two revealed cases, have proven inadequate. Holding all on-going negotiations until MIT has clarified and stated its policies on such matters will not just prevent such misbegotten mistakes as the Iranian program, but will keep the administration from closing alternatives to the committee and setting unwanted precedents. In addition, if MIT's foreign dealings are as extensive as they seem to be, such a moratorium will lend a much-needed urgency to the policy review — a leisurely process to date which might well stand some encouragement.

There is no doubt that MIT will need some sort of foreign policy. The need for research and technical training overseas now, and in many cases the money to pay for it is there too. But the review of its policies should be conducted openly with the broadest possible participation. These proposed measures would be a first step in showing the Institute's sincere desire for such participation.

The Tech

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Mike Peters

DAYTON DAILY NEWS 1/250



Commentary:

Planning for the PhD gap

By Robert A. Albery

I was invited to comment on "Projections of Science and Engineering Doctorate Supply and Utilization, 1980 and 1985" which has just been published by the National Science Foundation. These projections indicate a trend on a national scale toward increasing imbalances between supply and conventional utilization of doctorates and emphasize the expected decline in the academic job market due to demographic and student choice factors. The report emphasizes that projections are not predictions and that they produce a range of possible future situations based on definite assumptions and no significant break in trends.

In the past, predictions have not been very successful, but there is one aspect of current projections that is reasonably solid and needs to be taken seriously. That is the fact that the number of 18-22 year olds will grow only a little in the remainder of this decade and will decline in the 1980's. For this reason the demand for new college and university faculty is expected to decline, and the total faculty required in the United States may decline very slightly after about 1983. However, the demand for faculty will depend on many factors such as the percentage of high school graduates going to college, the development of continuing education, student-faculty ratios and on-campus research. Even if the general national picture described in the NSF report is correct, some fields of higher education will increase during this period because of increasing importance.

The fact that the number of faculty positions may not grow much in the 1980's does not mean that able people with interests in that type of career should change their plans, but they should be aware that there may be increased competition and should be ready to consider new kinds of jobs.

The National Science Foundation report projects increases in the percentages of doctorates who will be employed in what they call other science-engineering positions or non-science-engineering positions. Other science-engineering positions include, for example, technical sales, management with a technical component, and consulting. Non-science-engineering positions do not really require a doctorate education. At the present time about 10% of the country's doctorates in science and engineering hold other science-engineering or non-

science-engineering positions, and on the average their salaries are higher than the salaries of scientists and engineers employed by colleges and universities and in industrial and government research and development. If more doctorate scientists and engineers are going to hold such positions in the future, there is the question as to how educational programs should be changed to provide for greater breadth and flexibility. Doctorates have always shown a marked capacity to transfer from one field to another and to undertake jobs outside of research, but the National Science Foundation report recommends that more attention should be paid to building foundations and developing attitudes for future change during the formal educational process.

The report emphasizes that projected differences in supply and demand do not indicate unemployment of doctorates because doctorates are able people who have a number of options. In the fall of 1973 the Commission on Human Resources of the National Research Council carried out a survey of 50,000 of the 250,000 doctorate scientists and engineers in the United States and found an unemployment rate of 1.1%. Such a level on unemployment is regarded as frictionally level by economists and is found even in good economic times.

Projections of supply and demand do not attempt to deal with quality, and yet there are large differences in the quality of experience provided in different doctoral programs and universities differ in their success in recruiting able students. Although projections, and the basic statistical data on which they are based, deal with populations of individuals, we all know that individuals are important and that their careers depend on their ability, experience, and dedication.

Projections are based on assumptions and one of the major assumptions for utilization of doctorates in science and engineering is the rate of growth of research and development. As we look ahead, the United States and the world face major problems of obtaining enough energy, materials, food, and medical care. We know that these problems will be more difficult to solve because of the need to protect the environment and the quality of human life. Thus there is a lot for scientists and engineers to do, but uncertainty about the rate with which these problems will be attacked. Projections emphasize the idea that there are some limits on the total resources that will be available for these activities in the future.

How should projections affect the decisions of students? In considering doctorate education, it is important not to overemphasize short-term trends. Since doctorate education takes a long time, poor employment prospects may lead to decreased enrollment and shortages six years later. It is hard to foresee needs six years in advance, but even if it were, this might overemphasize the importance of first jobs. Actually a new doctorate can look ahead to an active career of about thirty-five years. Thus it is important to get an education that will provide the basis of a career over a long period of time, during which many changes will undoubtedly occur. Most people change their work activities many times in the course of their careers and their flexibility, adaptability, and ability to move into new fields as they develop have a big effect on the extent to which they can fully utilize their talents and take advantage of new opportunities.

(Dr. Albery is Dean of the School of Science and Chairman of the Commission on Human Resources.)

Letter to The Tech

To the Editor:

This is in response to the many people who, having read my piece on the Institute's proposed Iran program (*The Tech*, 4/15/75), chose to comment on only my parenthetical remark about Robert Benchley's judicial career.

Of course, I know that Benchley never became a judge. I added that bit of nonsense to my piece for the benefit of those who need some irrelevant bauble to distract their attention when-

ever they are confronted by an aspect of reality unpalatable to them. Their subsequent intense engagement with arguments at best peripheral to truly substantive questions often gives them the comforting illusion of having faced real problems.

I dare say that the debate over the proposed Iran program has had some characteristics that lend a certain relevance to my little joke.

Joseph Weizenbaum
Professor of Computer Science

Lobby 7 reviews 'Food' errors, considers safety guidelines

By Margaret Brandeau

In an effort to respond to community complaints, members of the Lobby 7 Committee have been reviewing the problems encountered in the "Food" exhibit.

According to John Wynne, chairman of the committee, he had received letters from people who were upset by the exhibit. "The things which people criticized about the exhibit needed to be taken seriously," he said. "We need to develop a set of guidelines for exhibitors to follow."

One problem considered by the committee was that of safety violations. A major offender was the Big Apple, which was placed in the middle of the lobby, detouring all traffic through that area. MIT has an agreement with the Cambridge Department of Public Safety that there will be an imaginary hallway kept open from the front door of the lobby to the main corridor.

According to Suzanne Weinberg, Lobby 7 Committee Coordinator, the Apple was supposed to be free-standing. It

was supposed to be built in the middle of the lobby and then moved off to the side. It was also supposed to be somewhat smaller than it actually was.

However, after it was built, the Apple could not stand by itself and had to be held up by a cable in the middle of the lobby. "It was a question of moving it or ditching it," said Weinberg. "It was impossible to move it, and I didn't think it was fair to tell students that after months of work they had to ditch it."

Another problem brought up at a meeting earlier this month was that of the apples that were hanging from a macrame net above the lobby. Jim Miller '76, a student who opposed the exhibit because he felt it obstructed the lobby, said that some people walking through the lobby were hit on the head by

rotting apples which fell from the net. According to Miller, Weinberg apparently thought from the plans shown her by the artists that these were to be paper mache apples or else real apples in supporting baskets.

There were also problems in the exhibit with exposed wires. However, Weinberg said that most of the problems of this sort were repaired without much trouble and that the Big Apple was the only major problem.

She added that, "There are always going to be problems in an exhibit like this because most of the people working on it were students. However, most of the people who were in the thing followed the guidelines."

The Lobby 7 Committee will meet on May 20 to work on formulating new guidelines for exhibitors to follow.

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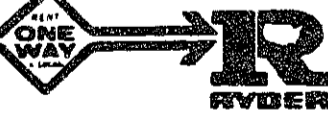
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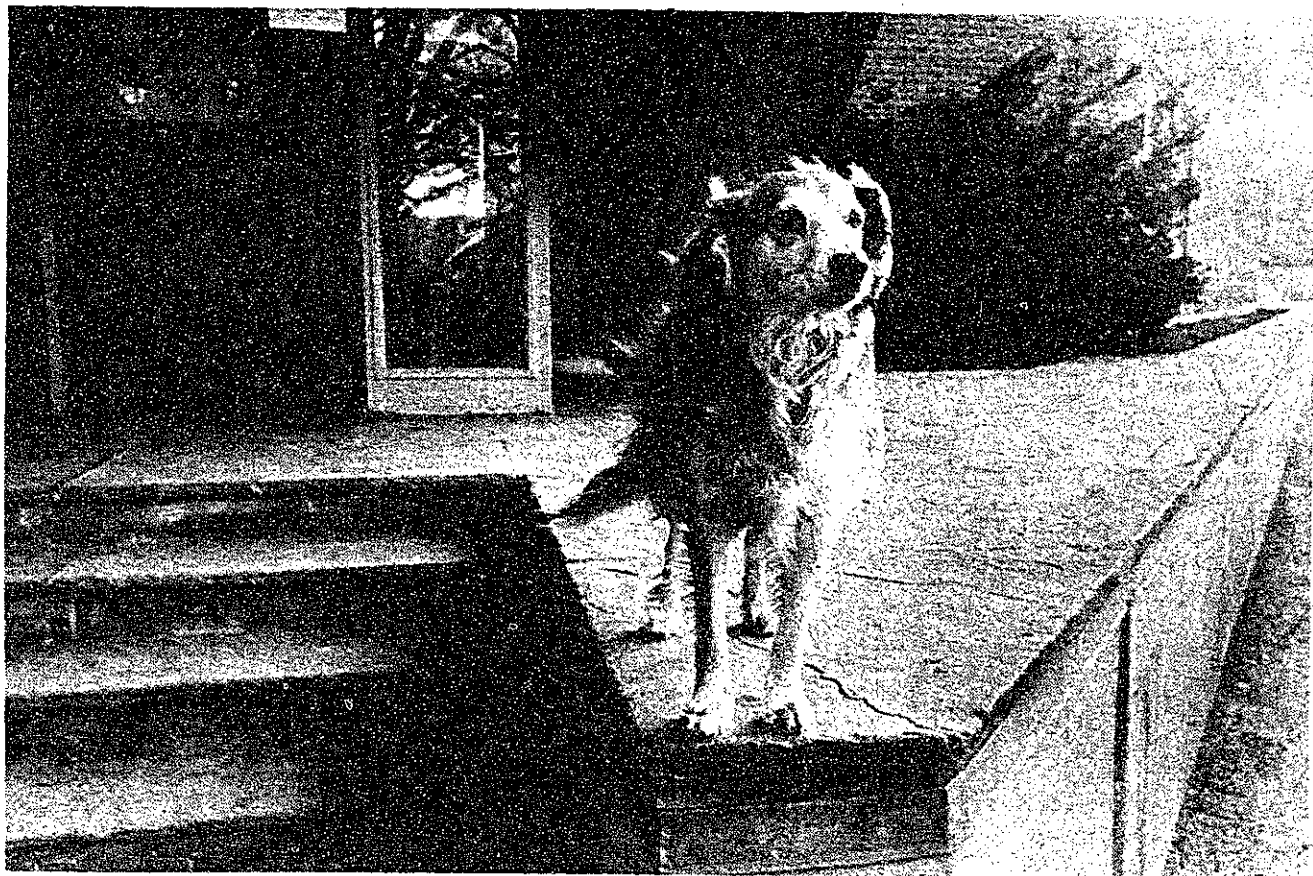
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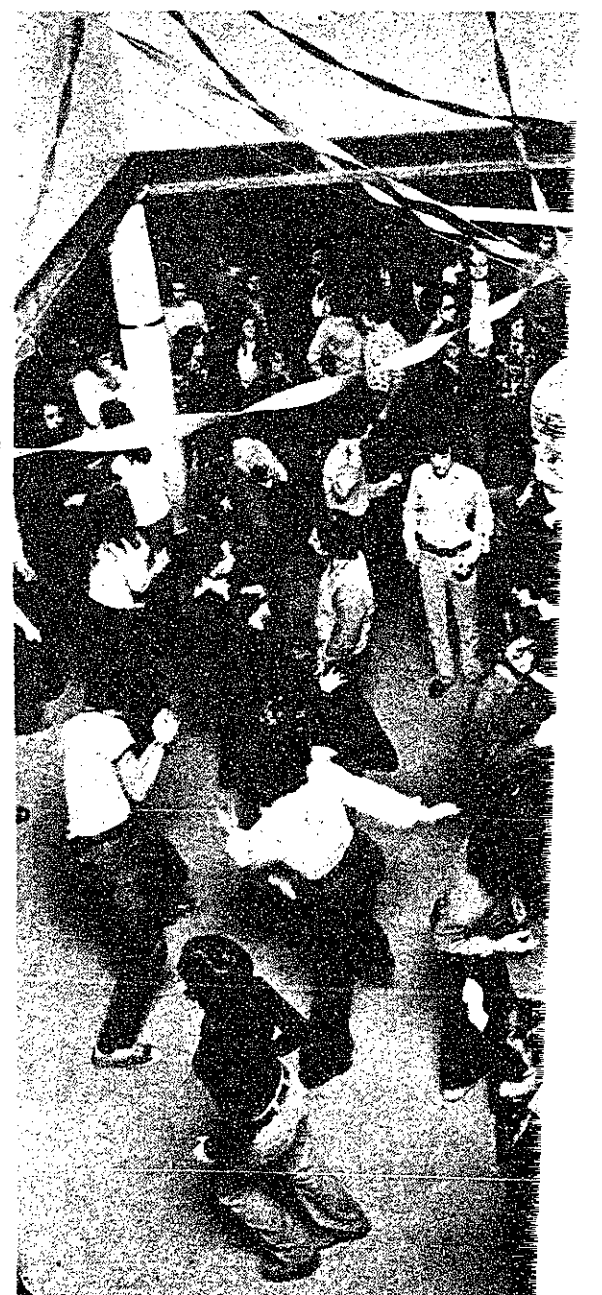
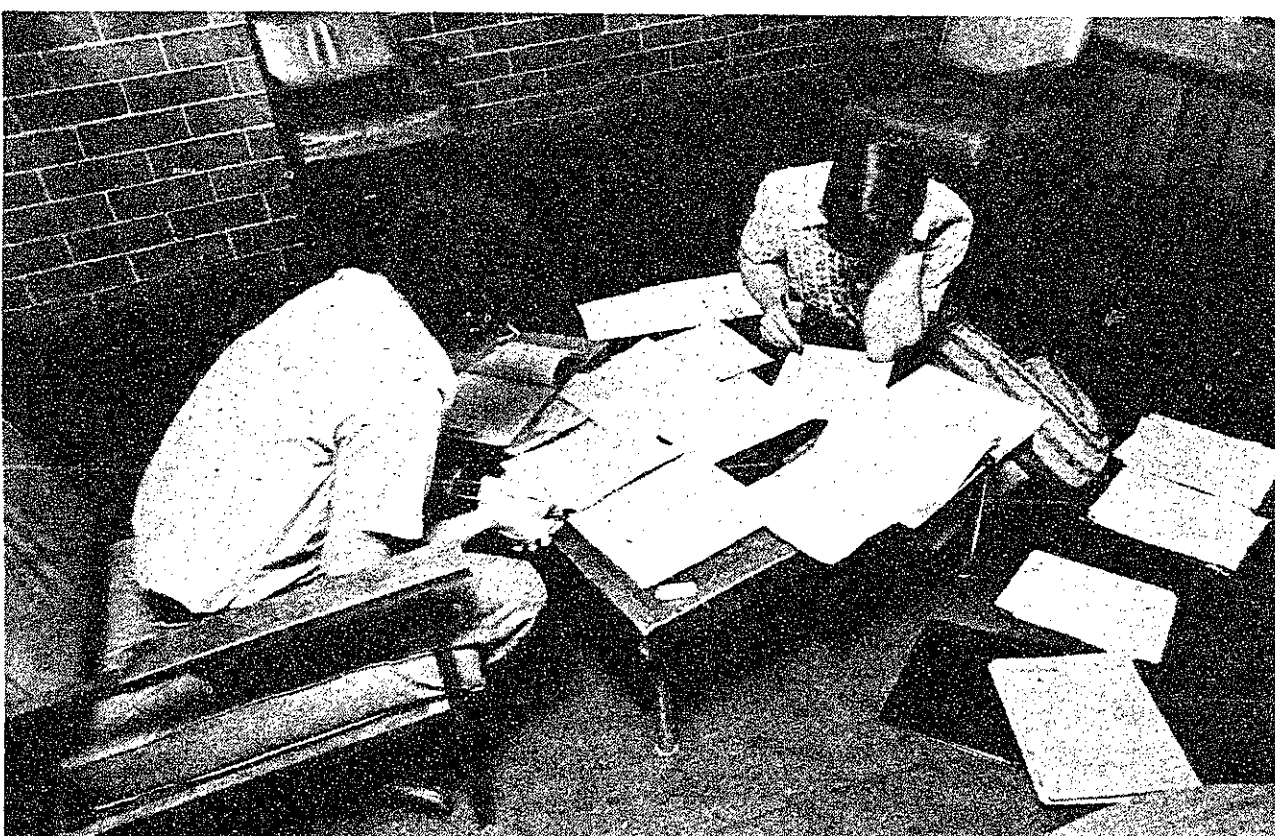
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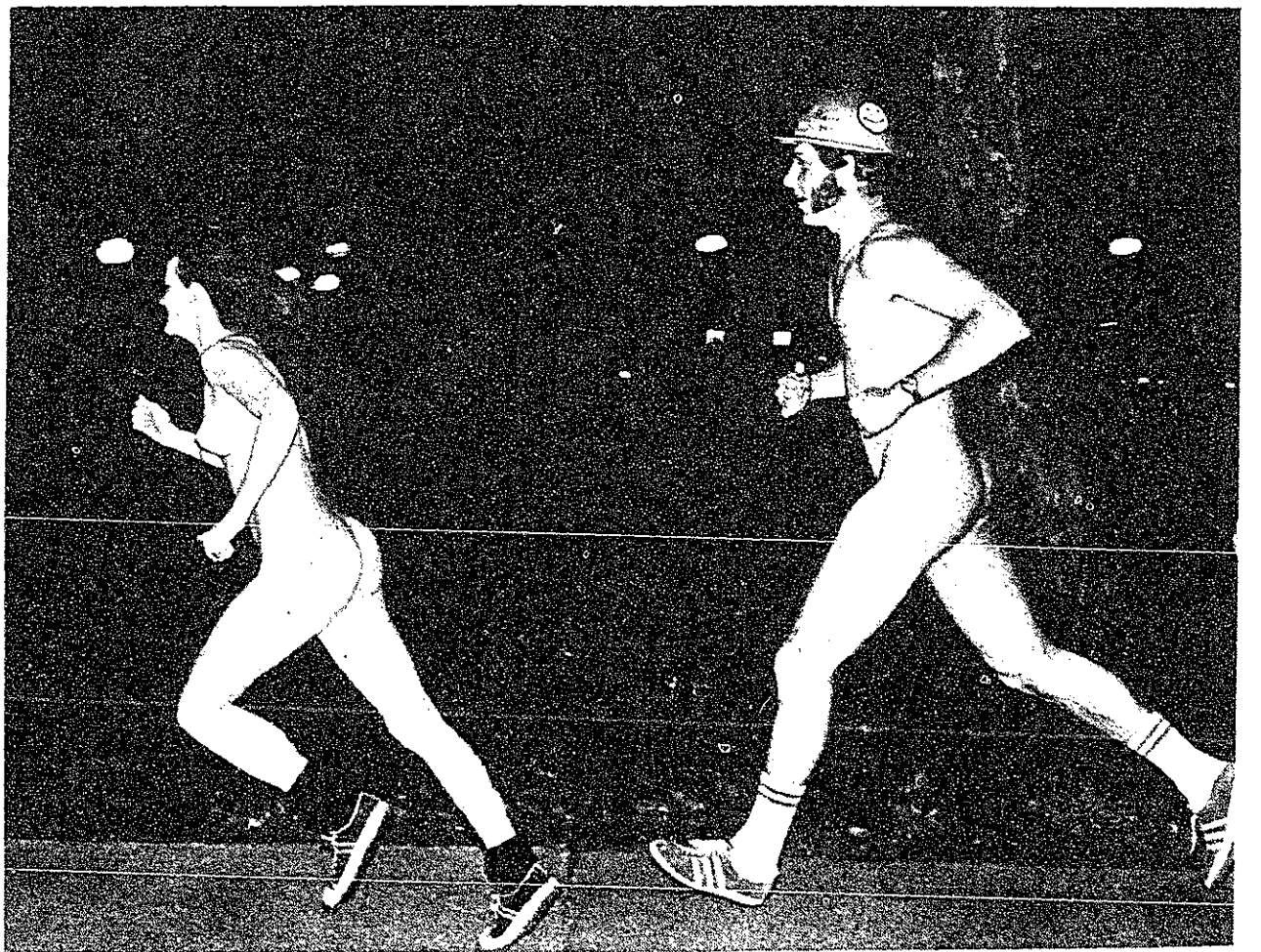
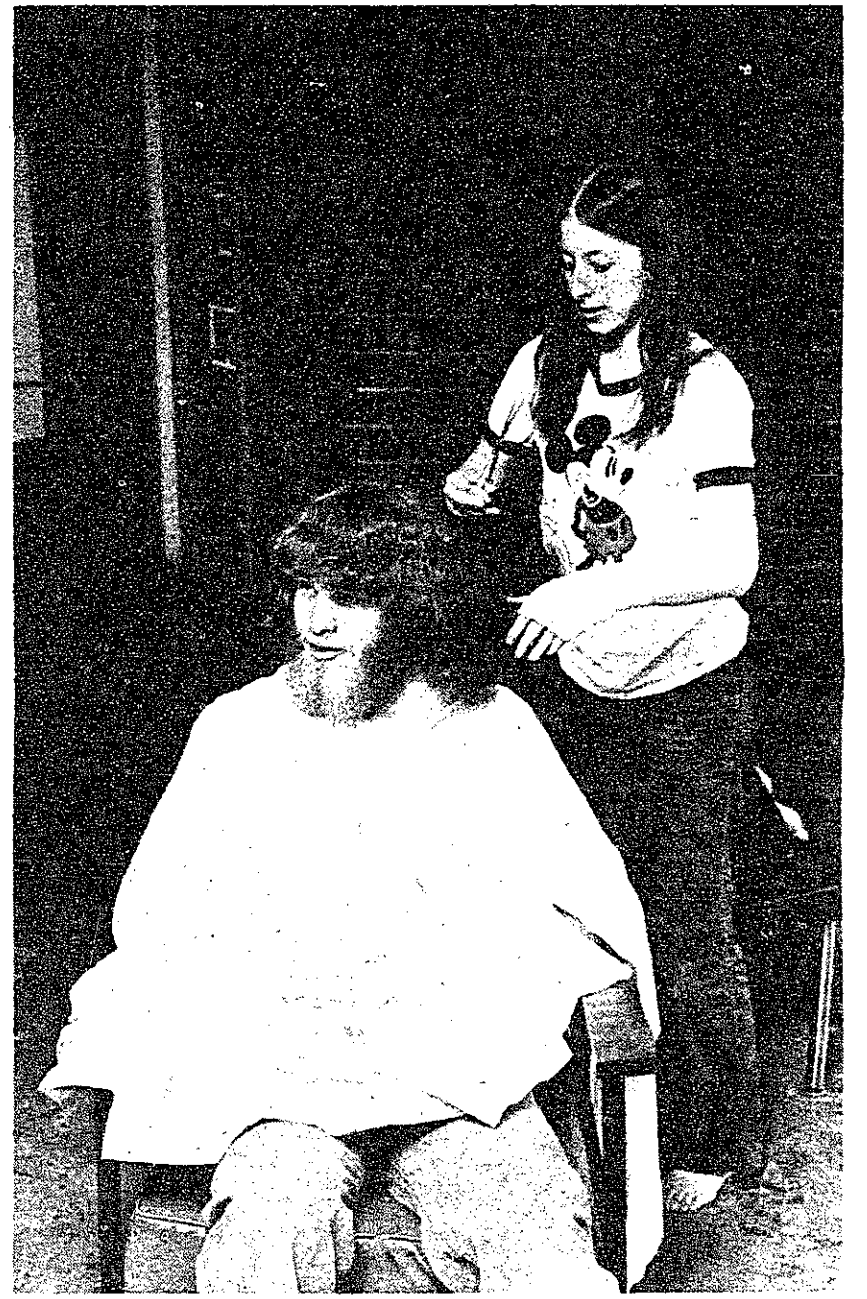
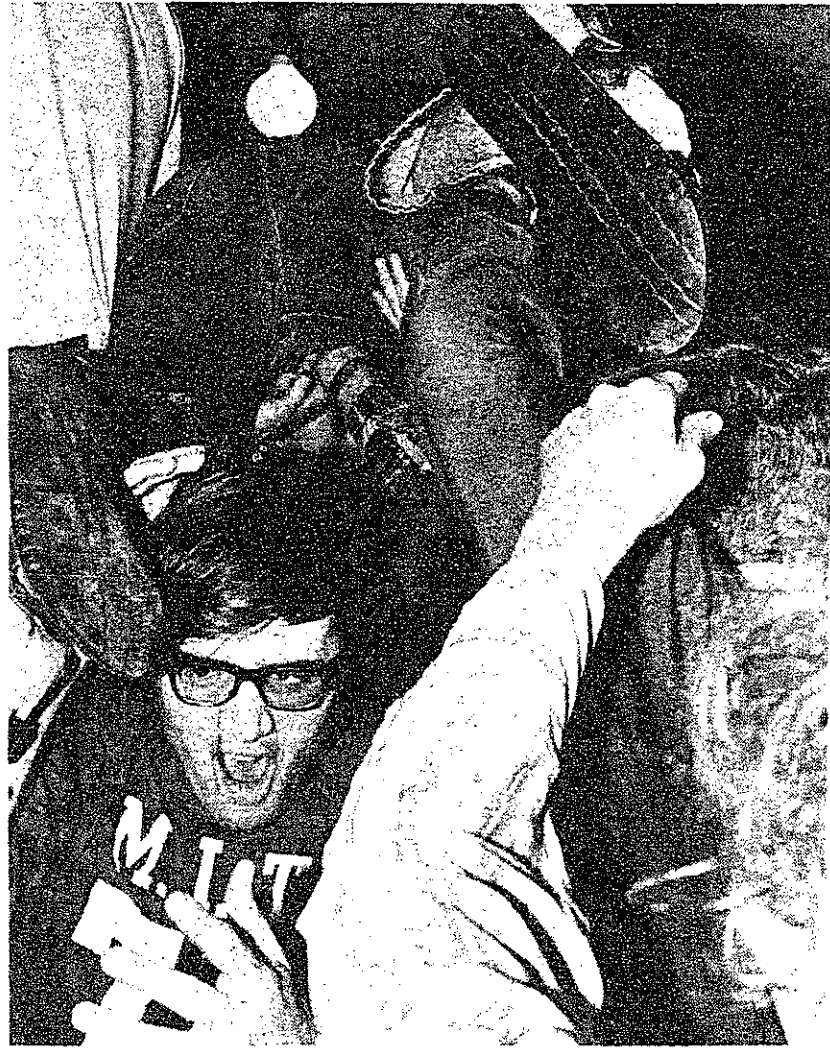




Baker

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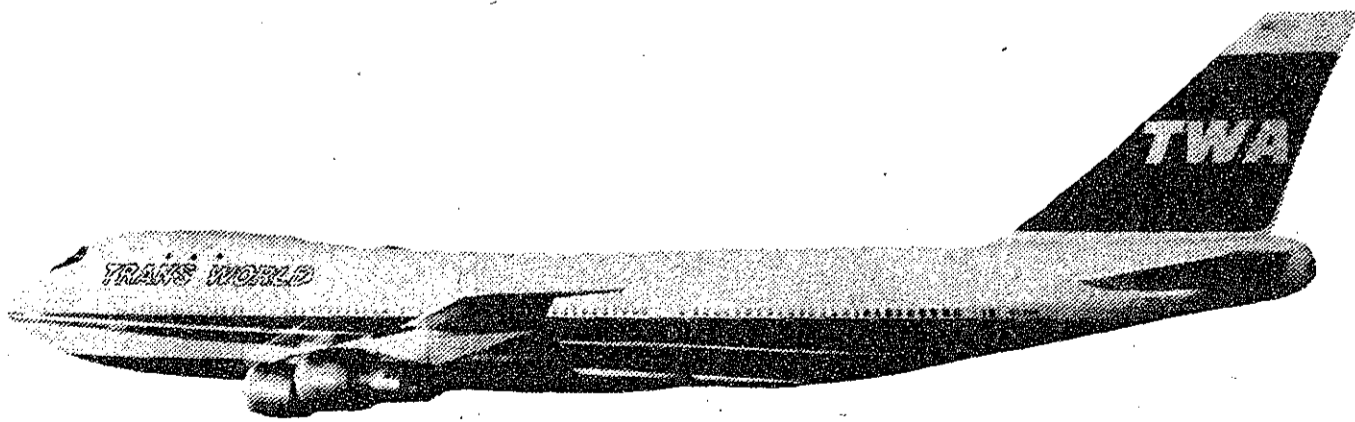


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NOTES

* Registration Material for the first term 1976-76 must be picked up in Building 10 Lobby, Monday May 12 and Tuesday May 13. Descriptions of subjects will be available for reference in the library, the Information Center, and in Department headquarters.

* Seniors - want to see how ridiculous all your friends looked as freshmen? Get a Freshman Picture-book - Class of '75 edition for only \$.25 at TCA, Room 450 of the Student Center.

* Owners and operators of motor vehicles and trailers registered in Massachusetts are reminded that the compulsory Spring Inspection began April 1 and ends May 15. This is a good time to have repairs made so that when you do present your motor vehicle for inspection it will pass inspection the first time. There are 4400 official inspection stations located throughout the state which have been checked by Registry officers and are ready to perform the required inspection for you. The fee for a motor vehicle inspection is now \$2.00. The fee for inspection of a trailer alone is still 50 cents.

* The deadline for the Third Annual Summer Writing Grants is 5pm Friday May 23. Applicants should include a project proposal for creative work and a sample of their writing. All applicants should have a faculty sponsor. The grants are open to all MIT undergraduates. Awards will be announced after June 5. Call the Writing Program (x3-7894) for further information.

* Students are wanted to teach/tutor basic math and study skills to MIT freshmen for 3-8 weeks, 6 or more hours per week, during the fall term. \$3.50 an hour. Contact FAC Office, 7-103, x3-6771.

* Amnesty International will hold a "Symposium on Political Prisoners," on Thursday at 8pm, in Lowell Hall, Harvard University, corner of Kirkland and Oxford Streets, Cambridge. The symposium will feature Nobel Prize winner George Wald, and several former "Prisoners of Conscience."

* The sign up list for the Strobe Project Lab (Course 6.163) for the Fall, 1975 semester is now posted outside of room 4-405.

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* Effective on June 11, 1975, operators of motorcycles which are not equipped with windshields or screens are required to wear eye-glasses, goggles or protective face shields; and effective on June 23, 1975, operators of motorcycles shall ride no more than two abreast and shall ride in single file when passing.

* Associate Professor of Humanities William Watson will speak on "Spontaneity and Organization in the Barcelona Uprising," Friday, May 16, at 8pm in 9-150, as part of the Black Rose Lecture Series.

* MIT students and personnel are needed to work with mentally retarded children in Cambridge. Become involved in programs in recreation, sports, or community experience and self help skills. Start this summer or next fall. Call Urban Action, x3-2894, Jack Barry, x3-4497.

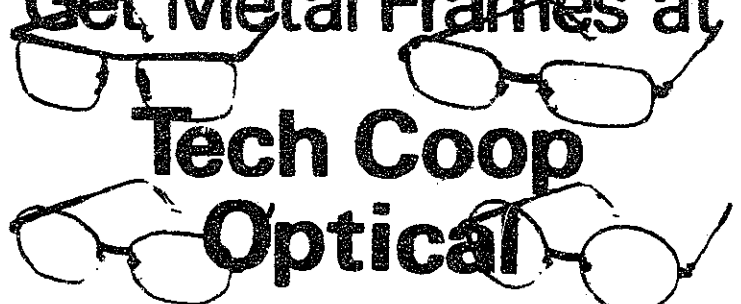
* Actors, actresses, musicians, and technicians are needed for the 1975 Summer Season for Publick Theatre's productions of "Measure for Measure" and "Volpone," to be presented July 4 - August 26 at the MDC Amphitheatre in Brighton. Auditions May 13-16 at 7pm and May 17 at 2pm in the Publick Theatre Building. Actors should bring resumes and pictures. For further information call David Blumenthal at 523-0974 days, and 327-3677 nights.

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The Boston University Summer Term Public Communication Institute provides an intensive opportunity for professional career discovery in the field of communication—journalism, public relations, broadcast, advertising, advanced media policy, planning and production. The six week institute combines lectures, seminars, hands-on workshops and field trips, all with strong emphasis on integration of communication theory and practice. Each student will produce at least 6 projects in research, writing and media that responds to real world communication problems. Lectures and seminars will be given by more than 25 visiting professionals including: journalists, editors, writers, photographers, publicists, filmmakers, art directors, client account executives, on and off camera television personalities, media producers, advertising and public relations executives, government and regulatory specialists, and advanced communication technology experts.

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On Your Feet or On Your Knees

by Bob Reina

One of the most discouraging aspects of rock music is the manner in which excellent groups are pushed into obscurity while horrendous bands rise to fame and fortune. It is reassuring, however, that after a few underpublicized years of outstanding performances, the Blue Oyster Cult is beginning to attain the recognition they deserve.

The Cult are a New York band, and, consequently, most of their fans are from the NYC-Long Island area. In the late sixties, the group (then known as the Soft White Underbelly) played the Long Island bar circuit and eventually were warmup to Ten Years After at Stonybrook University in 1969. Their big break came in 1972 when they signed with Columbia records — but still no notoriety.

BOC's music is a little different from most rock music and I guess it can be described as amphetaminated jackhammered, hard rock. But unlike the Dolls and Kiss (or any other eye-shadowed, correspondence-school-trained, pseudo-musicians) they are musically creative and technically perfect. Past the drums and bass of Albert and Joe Bouchard, respectively, guitars form the band's basic sound. Don (Buck Dharma) Roeser plays lead guitar, with lead vocalist Eric Bloom backing on "stun guitar" and synthesizer." Allan Lanier fills in all the gaps with rhythm guitar and the keyboards, and all members contribute vocals to differing extents. Cult music is characterized by high speed boogie rhythms with many weaving and harmony guitar effects; Bloom's vocals are biting and percussive while the other vocalists provide a more mellow background.

There are two good reasons for the Cult's lack of acceptance in the Boston area. Their three studio albums are basically mediocre and do not show the band at their full potential. Moreover, when restricted to a forty minute set as the second band, (as BOC have been in Boston) they don't really cut loose with a complete show and there's always a feeling of uneasiness in their act.

The Blue Oyster Cult are one of the best live rock bands — their new double album, *On Your Feet Or On Your Knees*, is a well rounded collection of the high points of last year's tour. "The Red and the Black" is a ridiculously fast blues number from *Tyranny and Mutation*. Amazingly enough, Buck Dharma's lead work does not falter at this high pace. Keeping the rhythmic style consistent is "Seven Screaming Dizbusters;" designed to be performed live, it works much better than the studio arrangement, with an extended guitar solo exploring many paths.

"Buck's Boogie" is the Blue Oyster Cult's masterpiece, and at recent concerts it has become their theme song. It has a catchy theme, tight chops, interesting chord progressions, and, as the name suggests, lets Dharma loose for some of his best solos. Buck's playing combines technique, wit, phrasing, and creativity into a style that is quick but very tasteful. This song is peculiar because it has never been released on a Cult studio album; (the studio version is available, however, on the Columbia anthology, *The Guitars That Destroyed the World*) moreover, it is never performed the same way in any two concerts.

"Then Came The Last Days of May" is a sweet ballad that allows a breather from the standard BOC repertoire and a chance for lead vocals by Buck Dharma. "Cities on Flame" is the Cult's slow and heavy tune. The redundant pounding guitar riff provides a solid foundation for Al Bouchard's wailing vocals.

The high point of any Cult concert is "ME 262," which loses something



Blue Oyster Cult

on the album if you've previously witnessed the visual production. Near the middle of the song the three guitars and bass set up a basic riff and then simultaneously improvise around it. Soon drummer Bouchard picks up a guitar and joins in with his licks. The end result is five guitars weaving in and out of each other on stage.

"The Subhuman" deviates from their usual style, for although the beat is hard and driving, the vocals are melodic and soothing. In the remainder of the album, a few nostalgic tricks are utilized. Their encore rendition of "Born To Be Wild" is a bit comical and their metamorphosis of the 50's tune, "I Ain't Got You," even includes the guitar solo from the Doors' "L.A. Woman" and parts of the guitar work from Free's classic "All Right Now." Since most of the cuts on the album are arranged in the same style, one might conclude that all Cult music sounds the same; actually this no more applied to the Blue Oyster Cult than it does to hard rock in general.

There is something to be said about the image the Blue Oyster Cult are trying to project. They proclaim dominance and submission, whips, leather, and the like — and their music fits the bill. But on stage they still look like a bunch of skinny guys from Long Island. It was almost as if they were forced into arbitrarily choosing a gimmick.

This album has such great potential, it's a shame Columbia chose to ruin it. It is one of the most poorly engineered disks I have ever listened to. The sound resembles that of a bootleg album and the mixing is atrocious. The cuts on the album assume no logical order and stage announcements with applause are randomly mixed in between cuts. (It's hard enough to understand their lyrics as it is.)

Barring this tragic flaw, this is definitely an album to be heard. If possible everyone should see the Blue Oyster Cult in a top-billed format. If not, then pick up the album and listen to the best hard rock band of the seventies.

Discography:

The Blue Oyster Cult (Columbia KC 31063)
Tyranny and Mutation (Columbia KC 31063)
Secret Treaties (Columbia KC 32858)
On Your Feet or On Your Knees (Columbia PG 33371)

Pieces of Emmy Lou

by Wanda Fischer

Pieces of the Sky
 Emmy Lou Harris
 (Reprise MS 2213)

The more I listen to *Pieces of the Sky*, the more I like it. At first, I was sort of discouraged by the fact that old Emmy Lou Harris has such a nice voice, but was wasting it on poorly chosen material.

But the more I hear of her voice, the more enchanted I become with it. I may not exactly agree with her choice of songs, but she sure is one talented woman.

The one thing that may be said for the material here is that it demonstrates her versatility. Most of the songs are of a country western flavor; Harris shines when she sings about unsuccessful love, which seems to be a favorite theme of c'n'w songwriters. For example, her version of "Too Far Gone" is what I would call "country western-blues." Bill Payne's piano work is superb; it adds a honky-tonk atmosphere to Harris' vocal work.

My favorite on this album has to be

"Before Believing," written by Dan Flowers. Emmy Lou's voice is in the forefront here, not buried behind massive orchestration. This number is impeccably arranged, with outstanding guitar work by Emmy Lou herself and Bruce Archer, interlaced with a sensitive piano arrangement, again by Bill Payne.

Two other mentionable cuts on *Pieces of the Sky* are "Boulder to Birmingham," which Harris wrote in conjunction with Bill Danoff (who also helped John Denver to write "Take Me Home Country Roads" a while back), and a sensitive, touching version of "For No One," a Lennon-McCartney composition. Both of these numbers enjoy excellent arranging which complements Harris' voice.

The rest of the album consists of solid material, some of which is too country western-oriented for my personal taste. But the lady has a voice that should be heard — even if (as I do) you cannot bring yourself to agree with the style of much of her material.



Emmy Lou Harris

The Hugos... and One That Got Away

by Charles Hitchcock

The current science fiction achievement awards committee has announced the Hugo nominees for 1974. Unlike most other awards, the Hugos (named after Hugo Gernsback, the founder of modern science fiction as a separate genre) are nominated and awarded by the fans with the committee serving only to mail out and count the nominating and final voting ballots. This year the nominations for best novel (defined as anything over 37,000 words) include a couple of duds and a couple which deserve a chance at the award.

The Inverted World by Christopher Priest is based on a hidden gimmick which is revealed near the end of the book, by which time I could only say "So what?" The characters are so poorly drawn and cheaply suffled that it hardly matters that they are totally defeated by the end of the book. Priest has his chance to show the sort of major social change that is the foundation of most science fiction, and blows it.

Flow my Tears, the Policeman Said by Philip K. Dick is all right if you happen to like weird happenings that turn out to be somebody's hallucinations - at least I could summon some interest in what happened to the characters but after several books on the same basis I'm bored and I feel that Dick is cheating his readers.

The Mote in God's Eye by Larry Niven and Jerry Pournelle is moderately inspired hackwork which has been hyped past endurance in some areas. It epitomizes Campbell's Pre-requisite (a race of aliens which are both believable and truly alien) but the humans are stereotypes, some borrowed liberally from *Star Trek*. The story is told reasonably well, with a sound if excessively detailed plot (539 pages worth); but the climaxes, which are built up until you expect to hear fanfares at the page turns, come over like so many waterlogged firecrackers.

Fire Time by Poul Anderson is, from Anderson, an astonishing book. There are hungover bits and pieces of his snap judgments of other people's politics but on the whole he has managed to keep the gripping narrative of his best previous work while discarding the casually aristocratic political viewpoint which made those books so irritating. It also has practically the only woman in Anderson's work who is a developed character rather than simply a figure for the men to kick around - in fact she has the leading human role. The aliens are also well thought out; since the story does need an implacable enemy like the Merseians of his other books they are detailed, believable, and different.

I would not be sorry to see *Fire Time* win the Hugo but it appears likely to be defeated by *The Dispossessed* (by Ursula K. Leguin) which in a poll in *Locus* ("The Magazine of the Science Fiction Field") scored over twice as many points as its nearest rival. *The Dispossessed* is a very complex novel and for that reason will reward rereading more than any of the other nominees. Leguin has created a pair of worlds - one authoritarian, the other its created camping ground for a million communal anarchists - and contrasts them through the eyes of a genius physicist who is appreciated on both worlds for his talent but not for his opinions. She exposes with the finest of needles the fallacies of libertarians and radicals alike but does not sacrifice a good story line to make her points.

The one that didn't make it is *A Knight of Ghosts and Shadows* by Poul Anderson; in fact it did not even appear in the list of 23 novels in the above mentioned poll. The problem is

that it was serialized in the October and December issues of *IF*, which had previously been announced as folding with the December issue; it only recently came out in hardback, so very few people saw it before the nominations were closed.

So I'm reviewing another Anderson book. So *nu*? The man thinks he's Robert Silverberg - he's written four novels this year, all of them better than the bulk of what appears in the bookstores these days. But *A Knight of Ghosts and Shadows* is the best of the lot. It's another story about Captain Sir Dominic Flandry, Terran Imperial Navy, whose Empire is now quite a bit older than in previous books; the corrupt Emperor has in fact been replaced by one who is honest but rather slow-witted. To be blunt, the new Emperor is a caricature-German, and fortunately seen only briefly, but he is a minor flaw in a major work which somehow manages to fit itself neatly into a reasonable size instead of sprawling through several hundred pages.

The story opens on Flandry and the son he unknowingly fathered on an admiral's concubine 27 years (and several books) ago. The son is not seen again until the end of the book, when he turns out to be an idealistic traitor, preferring the young and vigorous (and still somewhat barbaric) Merseian Rojdhunite to what he feels is a dying Terran Empire. The Empire is in fact in somewhat better health than it was in previous stories; the succession of an Emperor who seems positively ascetic compared to the ultimate decadence of his predecessor has generally improved morale.

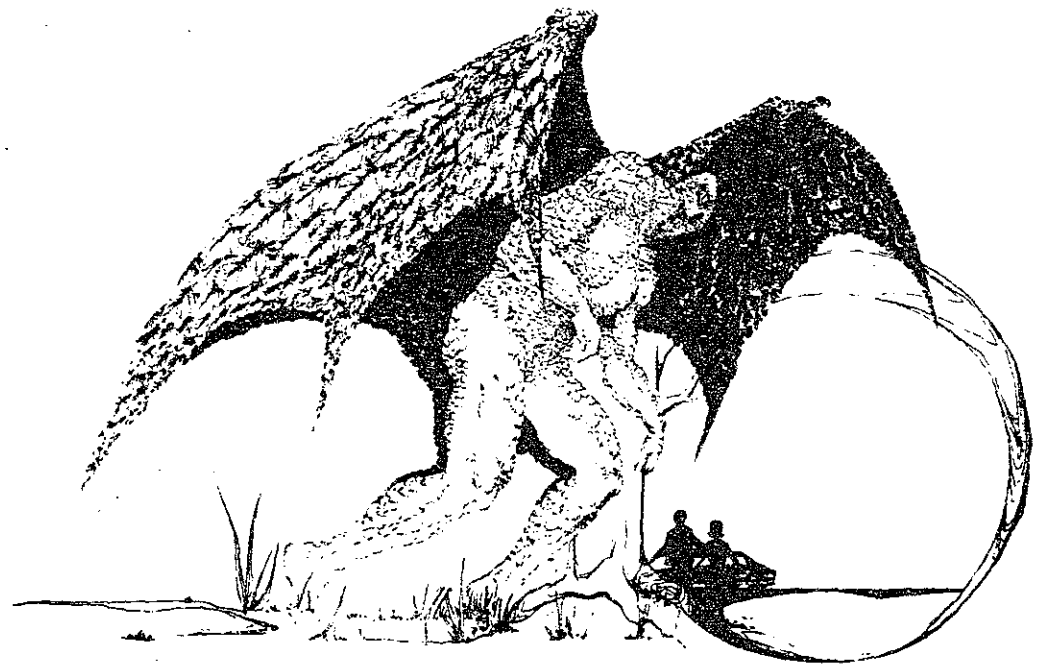
The Empire's immediate problem is the tensions between the colonials, who have done most of the work in turning back a Merseian thrust into the Empire, and the Imperial Navy which has ordered the colonists to disband their armed forces. The situation is exacerbated by a group of spies and disaffected humans appearing on fringe worlds as members of the Navy and doing their best by overbearing behavior to stir up trouble between

the colonials and the Imperials. The classic species loyalties are further blurred by the mutualistic Terran/Merseian culture which has grown up on several of the Terran colonial worlds. Anderson has always been good at drawing the complex factors behind the political slogans and here he has outdone himself - particularly appropriate because the story is gradually shadowed by Aycharaych, an avid ally of the Merseians who in previous stories was responsible for some of their most complex schemes.

Flandry plunges into the middle of this by purchasing, apparently by chance, an alleged traitor condemned to slavery despite being the daughter of the colonists' commander in chief. She becomes practically the only woman of the hundreds he has toyed with that Flandry actually cares for, which increases the strain of balancing her valid colonial nationalism against the needs of the Empire as a whole. I

got a feeling of inevitability about the conclusion of this facet of the novel, but I must admit I underestimated Anderson in this. The final conclusion is a surprise but not some cheap one which would detract from any pleasure in rereading. In reaching it Anderson deliberately sidesteps several opportunities for reams of meditations, philosophic expatiations, or just plain purple prose, instead allowing the events to speak for themselves. To add irony to nemesis the book begins and ends with quotations from an epic later written about the colonial commander in chief, who was actually a minor figure in most of the key events.

This is, like all Anderson, an action story standing primarily by itself rather than as an overlay for deep intellectual argument, but the action is tempered by a thoughtfulness even more present than in *Fire Time*. The result is a truly remarkable book which should receive high praise from readers whatever their interests.



drawing by Peter Parnall

Moments of Perfection

by Margaret Minsky

Dhalgren
Samuel R. Delany
(Bantam Books; 879 pages)

This reviewer was taken in on first reading of *Dhalgren's* 879 pages, by its flamboyant and often excellent writing, its suggestions of a potent symbology, its main characters, ambiguous and impenetrable enough to seem insightfully drawn. Delany has staked much time and reputation on this novel. It is so long and clouded that it is easy to be diverted by hope for merit, expectation of revelation. He has lost. Upon long thought and some rereading, it is clear that *Dhalgren* is an overlong, dreadfully weak piece. Because it is touched by Delany's hand of genius, it is not devoid of delightful and strong moments, it is crafted carefully. Unfortunately, what it sustains is too scarred and basically pointless to make it a fine novel.

Most SF folk have probably tried to read some of *Dhalgren* and/or read the reviews (Sturgeon: "the greatest SF novel of all time" Del Rey: "a seemingly interminable boredom"). Even so, we'll attempt a precis. The novel is set in Bellona, a timeless, placeless city. Its population is reduced to a few thousand by a fantastic disaster. There are fires which burn continuously but do not destroy buildings; electricity and water

work, sometimes in some places; fog and dark clouds cover the sky. Into the city comes Kid, a man who does not remember his own name. He becomes a poet, the lover of a musical girl and an aimless young adolescent boy, the leader of a roaming gang of youths who live communally and call themselves Scorpions. His poetic celebrity leads Kid to meet the people of Bellona - all strange, some wondrous inventions of character. After a long time Kid leaves the city, for no clear reason. His time there had simply come to an end. There is no strong message, motivation, or idea to be found. What a disappointment from the author of that scintillating paragon of novel for, BABEL-17! Much of the novel is unfortunately occupied in a game of symbol manipulation. Several objects are introduced at the beginning in a heavy-handed, ritualistic manner. There are red contact lenses, chains of prisms, an identifying scratch of a woman's leg. These things are embedded in the structure of *Dhalgren* with care, yet they are never clear symbols. They are never explained, never identified, and they never become important, really, to the reader.

Dhalgren does not have a classical plot: movement in Bellona is lackadaisical - people wander meet, go looting or

live together or fuck or talk, and separate. Almost everyone spends lots and lots of time on sex, which Delany is good at describing. Kid's menage a trois gets a bit repetitive, but that may be because some realism is lacking in that we cannot understand why the three are attracted to each other. These three, the primary characters in *Dhalgren*, are the least well delineated. Kid is inconsistent as his poetry and leadership ability stem from nowhere plausible. Lanya and Denny, his lovers, are sweet but insipid.

Those are reasons why this novel is not great. There are a few redeeming features which we should note. Delany's assortment of well portrayed secondary characters you can't possibly hope to meet anywhere else, they are worthwhile, too, for their delusions, their individualism, their variety. Delany's language is good, deliberately fine - there are moments of perfection, phrases which, well, just couldn't be written except that Delany has figured out how to write them - perfectly.

If you have time, read *Dhalgren*, or part of *Dhalgren*. Appreciate its literary prettiness, its population. There's lots there about people's relationships, about personal realities, about madness and delusion, too. Just don't expect to be compelled or satisfied.

Sports

Beavers split four, finish 12-14

By Lawrence D. David

The MIT baseball Beavers split the last four games of their schedule last week, edging Northeastern, 1-0, then losing hearbreakers to Tufts, 5-4, and to WPI, 1-0, before closing out with a comeback over WPI in the second game of the doubleheader, 7-3.

Mike Royal '76 twirled a seven-hitter and the defense backed him up with several sparkling plays to keep Northeastern at bay. Dan Sundberg '77 and Roy Henriksson '76 foiled a second-inning double steal, catcher-to-second-to-catcher, and Sundberg gunned out pinch runner Pat Morelli in the ninth to end a Northeastern comeback attempt. The Beavers scored their lone run in the fifth. Henriksson reached first on an infield hit and Herb Kummer '75 followed with a one-out single. Sundberg's ground ball to the first baseman moved Henriksson and Kummer up, then Henriksson scored on a passed ball by Northeastern catcher Steve Kring. Kring fielded the ball off the backstop, but his throw and the tag by the Northeastern pitcher were too late, as Henriksson slid in around the tag.

Tufts jumped on David Yauch '75 immediately, as the first two batters scored on a double and then a home run by Tufts first baseman Mark Fisher. Tufts scored another in the sixth on another home run by center fielder Randy Rundle. In the eighth, though, the silent Beaver bats exploded. A single by Steve Edelson '76, a triple past the left fielder (who attempted a shoestring catch) by Royal, a double to right by Rick Olson '78, and then a towering home run blast by Jeff Felton '78 put the Beavers on top, 4-3.

Yauch retired the first man in the ninth, but the next batter singled up the middle and the batter after that walked. Coach Fran O'Brien pulled in Royal from right field to quell the uprising, but the next batter, Mark Fisher, slapped Royal's 1-1 pitch into center. Fisher plowed into Vince Maconi '76 at second base, making the second out as Maconi applied the tag but the

runner was breaking from third and scored the gamewinner, 5-4.

Mike Royal allowed only four singles in the first game of the double header versus WPI, but the Beavers could manage only three scattered singles off WPI ace Mike Sundberg. A bad hop single that skipped two feet over a leaping Felton at third base with two outs in the sixth scored WPI's lone run, but it was enough to edge the Beavers, 1-0.

The Beavers got their revenge in the nightcap, as Ken Smith '77 hurled the finest game of his MIT pitching career to win, 7-3. Only one of the runs that Smith allowed was earned, a third-inning home run by WPI's shortstop. Smith handcuffed the WPI batters, surrendering only five hits and two walks. The Beavers crunched out 11 hits, taking the initiative in the second inning when Royal laid down a perfect squeeze bunt to score Yauch with the second run. Edelson then stole home on the next pitch to up the count to 3-0.

Felton scored the eventual winning run by reaching second on a throwing error by the shortstop and wheeling around on Henriksson's single to right. The game was salted away in the seventh when Royal singled, Olson doubled him home, Felton doubled Olson home, and then Felton scored on Henriksson's infield hit, on which the shortstop threw the ball away.

Henriksson was elected the starting second baseman on the GB All-Star Team and Kummer nailed down the first baseman's spot. Kummer, elected the MIT baseball team's MVP, had the greatest season ever by an MIT batter, belting out a .396 average with 40 base hits and 50 total bases, all records.

The 12-14 record is somewhat a disappointment to the team, especially after the 6-1 southern trip that began the season. The team will lose Kummer and Yauch to graduation, but the rest of the starters will be back next year. The Beavers will hopefully have three starters back next year who

missed a lot of playing time due to injury; shortstop Mike Dziekan '76, who was sidelined with tendonitis in his throwing arm, catcher Rich Chmura '76, who missed the entire season with a knee operation, and veteran southpaw Don Proper '76, who is still mending a broken arm suffered in the Harvard game when he was hit by a pitch.

There is some promising talent in next year's freshman class, and combined with a returning veteran team, the outlook for another tournament-caliber team next year is very good.

UMass routs lacrosse, 22-5

By Glenn Brownstein

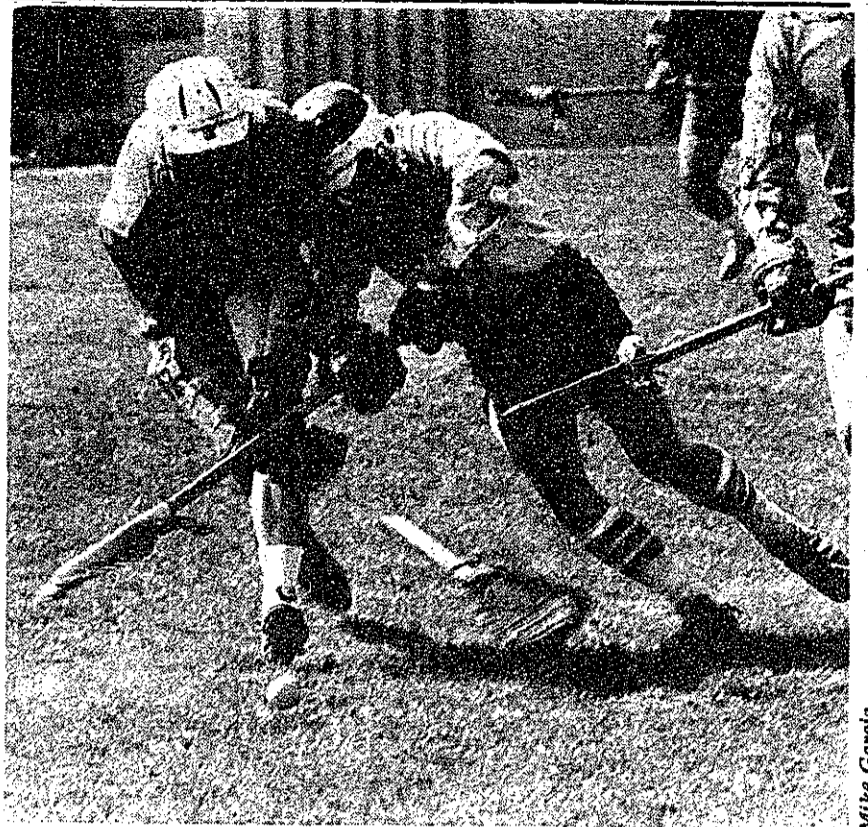
Showing why they are the nation's 14th-ranked lacrosse team, the Redmen of the University of Massachusetts scored twelve goals in the first quarter and powered to an easy 22-5 win over MIT in the Engineers' final game this year.

MIT was completely outclassed by a UMass squad that was quicker, had better ball and stickhandling abilities, and had more strength than the game, but obviously overmatched, Engineers.

In UMass' twelve-goal first quarter (one of the highest single quarters ever recorded in a collegiate lacrosse game), the Redmen bombarded MIT goalie Jeff Singer '77 with 25 shots, 17 on net, many of them backhanders or "fall-away" shots, in which the attacking player fired after running past the net. Billy O'Brien, Frank Garahan, and Terry Keefe all had three goals for UMass in the first quarter.

In the next three periods, MIT held its own, scoring five goals against the UMass reserves, while the Redmen subs added ten. To UMass coach Dick Garber's credit, he switched player positions and played his reserves liberally in an attempt to keep the score down.

George Braun '75, Bob Laurenson '75, Evan Schwartz '75, Alan Epstein '75, and Bob Connor '75, MIT's top five scorers during the regular season,



Engineer midfielder Roger Renshaw '77 (4) battles a Boston Lacrosse Club player for the ball in MIT's 15-8 scrimmage loss to BLC Sunday afternoon at Briggs Field.

Mike Garcia

all had single goals in the game.

After the first quarter, goalie Singer performed creditably, stopping eleven of 21 shots on net.

Although MIT lost its final three games to finish the season at 3-9, the team improved tremendously from 1974's 0-11 squad.

The addition of Laurenson (a transfer student who was first eligible to play this year) gave MIT more scoring punch (94 goals in 1975 against only 42 last year). Laurenson had 27 goals, graduating co-captain Braun 21 (with 18 assists), and Schwartz and Connor 15 apiece. Epstein scored five goals and passed off for eleven more.

MIT's defense, although allowing 158 goals, substantially improved over last year, as co-captain Rick Bye '75 (who missed the UMass game after tearing knee ligaments in a scrimmage earlier in the week) anchored a quick, pressing unit that allowed few good scoring attempts.

The squad's most valuable player was Singer, who at times single-handedly kept MIT in games with excellent goaltending. Singer's 230 saves in 12 games ranked him as one of the nation's top five in that department.

Next year, only three mid-dies, two defensemen and Singer return. As a result, a major rebuilding job will have to be

done for MIT to perform as well as it did this year. However, with its defensive base, the team, if players develop over the summer and some capable freshmen are attracted, has a definite chance of continuing the improvement trend of MIT lacrosse.

Sporting Notices

The newly-formed MIT Summer Basketball League is now accepting rosters for the summer session. All members of the MIT community are eligible. Rosters of up to twelve players must be submitted to W32-137 by Wednesday, May 28. A fee of \$60 per team will be charged to pay refereeing costs. For persons interested in refereeing, a clinic will be held Thursday, May 29 at 5:30pm in duPont Gymnasium.

Projected schedules call for 8-12 games per team to be played weeknights in duPont Gymnasium during June and July. Teams will compete in A or B-league, with the possibility of a third league should interest warrant it.

(Please specify league on roster.)

For more information, contact Randy Forent (536-1696), Maura Sullivan (296-6321), or Lisa Jablonski (dl 8333).

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still enroll in the
Army ROTC
program.

For details, inquire
at 20E-126, or
call ext. 3-4771

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