

## in the news

### INSIDE

*Transparent Horizons* was turned into a transparent snowman on Friday night by crews of eager students, mainly from East Campus and Senior House, as Roger Kolb continues his verbal battle with Steven Schladover over the artistic merits of the snowbound sculpture.

p4

Queen, Wings, and the Boston Symphony Orchestra all have released new recordings recently. The Tech Arts Section has been listening.

p6

Led by Tom Berman and Peter Maimonis, the varsity basketball team scored a major upset in Florida's Suncoast Classic.

p8

### OUTSIDE

James E. Adams, Jr. '77, a resident of Baker House who is majoring in Literature, is one of 32 Rhodes Scholars selected in the US this year. Adams, from Prairie Village, Kan., will study English Literature at Oxford University for two years after graduating from MIT.

Dave Cowens has returned to the Boston Celtics roster two months after he left the team for "personal reasons." The fans and players joy at the star center's return was dimmed, however, when the Celtics' Charlie Scott broke his wrist in two places during a game against the Indiana Pacers Wednesday night.

The recent heavy snows in Cambridge may force the city to increase its property tax rate by \$1. The city has already spent more than the \$200,000 budgeted for snow removal, according to a report in the Harvard Crimson.

The Labor Dept. yesterday released December statistics which show improvement in the national economy. The industrial price index showed its smallest increase in seven months, while the nationwide unemployment rate eased from 8.1 to 7.9 per cent.

According to a report issued by the US Commerce Department, the growing use of medical computer banks to store data on many patients may endanger the confidentiality of such information, which is often available to many organizations but not to the patient.

## Menand committee nixes writing credit

By Thomas J. Spisak

Amid charges of gross procedural irregularities, the Committee on the Humanities Requirement has denied distribution credit to the Writing Program's chief introductory course, Writing and Experience.

Sources close to the Committee charged that the subcommittee reviewing Writing and Experience's distribution status had violated usual procedure by inviting a faculty member not directly concerned with the subject to testify before it.

Special Assistant to the Provost Louis Menand III, chairman of the Committee, agreed that the subcommittee had departed from normal procedure in permitting one of the opponents of the Writing Program to testify before it.

The subcommittee met with Professor Albert Gurney of the Humanities Department Literature Section once, according to Menand. "We were trying to be fair to all sides. We do not operate in an adversary role — we tried to make sure that these were not adversary proceedings," Menand asserted.

Humanities Department sources close to the Committee expressed "deep outrage" at the conduct of the proceedings and that of some Department members.

"The Humanities Department offered its services to the Committee gratis in an effort to shoot down the Writing Program," one professor said.

"I was highly surprised at the choice of two known partisans to be delegated by the Head of the Department to speak against the Program," he added.

In its decision, the Committee laid particular stress on concern for "understanding of human values in societal, historical and cultural contexts." The Committee also required subjects on the distribution list to call for reading and writing assignments as well as

classroom discussion that demonstrated that concern.

"The cultural context in which a student exercises his writing skills should be significant feature of any Humanities Department subject in writing," the Committee found.

"Writing and Experience, whose subject matter consists predominately of student's writing judged on personal experience, does not adequately meet this objective," they concluded.

"The Committee respects the conviction of most members of the Writing and Experience staff that writing, for them, can be taught and learned without formal assigned readings," the report said.

Formal reading assignments were evidently a central issue in the Committee proceedings.

The Committee acknowledged that the Writing and Experience staff expressed a willingness to assign formal readings to make the course more acceptable to the Department and to the Committee.

"This willingness appeared to be reluctant and did not demonstrate a fullness of agreement with the criteria for Humanities Distribution," the Committee reported.

"Furthermore, the spirit of the course is to evaluate form and content for effectiveness within the peer group: relating writing to

## Hunger — the global disaster

By David Potter

Present trends of world malnutrition "cannot long continue without global disaster."

Institute Professor of Nutrition Nevin Scrimshaw explained in a lecture held Wednesday that an increasing number of countries are suffering from a food production deficit and must import food to support their rapidly growing populations.

Responsibility for food produc-



Mark James

Special Assistant to the Provost Louis Menand III, chairman of the Committee on the Humanities Requirement, which recently refused to give distribution credit to Writing and Experience

its place in the larger cultural setting is not the aim."

The conclusions reached by the Menand Committee are directly opposite to the conclusions last year's Writing Program Evaluation Committee reached. That committee, chaired by Professor Nathan Sivin, found that students' papers regularly explored human values in social, historical, and cultural contexts.

Professor Patricia Cumming, one of the prime movers behind Writing and Experience, termed the Menand Committee's decision "unfortunate."

"To exclude the one subject within the department that makes

knowing oneself — a prime goal of the humanities — its central object is to betray not only humanism but also the spirit of an institution that ought to provide real alternatives in educational approach," she stated.

The distribution list almost defines the humanities at MIT, according to Cumming. "Many MIT students will not venture beyond those subjects given distribution credit," she said.

"Apparently the Committee's decision was based on misperceiving us and ignoring our testimony and the testimony of the Sivin Committee," she postulated. "I almost feel invisible."

tion, which used to be more evenly distributed throughout the world, has dramatically shifted to North America, especially to the United States; Iowa alone produces ten per cent of the world's corn. In spite of tremendous productivity, surpluses are now gone and the world now has less than a forty-day food supply on hand.

Scrimshaw emphasized that increasing population is not the

only source of the world nutrition problem. There is also an increasing demand for food because of rising affluence in many third world countries. Per capita demand for food is rising with income, and production — which is already short of the world's needs — is projected to fall even further behind.

Scrimshaw implicated calorie and protein malnutrition among  
(Please turn to page 3)

## The DNA controversy: an overview MIT work may begin

By Mark James

Recombinant DNA research may be underway soon at MIT if the Cambridge City Council accepts the guidelines drawn up by Cambridge Laboratory Experimentation Review Board (CLERB).

The report (see *The Tech*, Jan. 7, 1976) of the CLERB suggests that research classified by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) as requiring a P3 containment facility be allowed in Cambridge if it is done according to NIH guidelines, and if additional procedures proposed by the CLERB are followed.

Three researchers at MIT have immediate plans to begin P3 research: Professor of Biology David Baltimore, Associate Professor of Biology Philip Sharp, and Assistant Professor of Biology David Housman.

Housman and Baltimore were not available for comment. Sharp

(Please turn to page 2)

## A history of the conflict

By Mark James

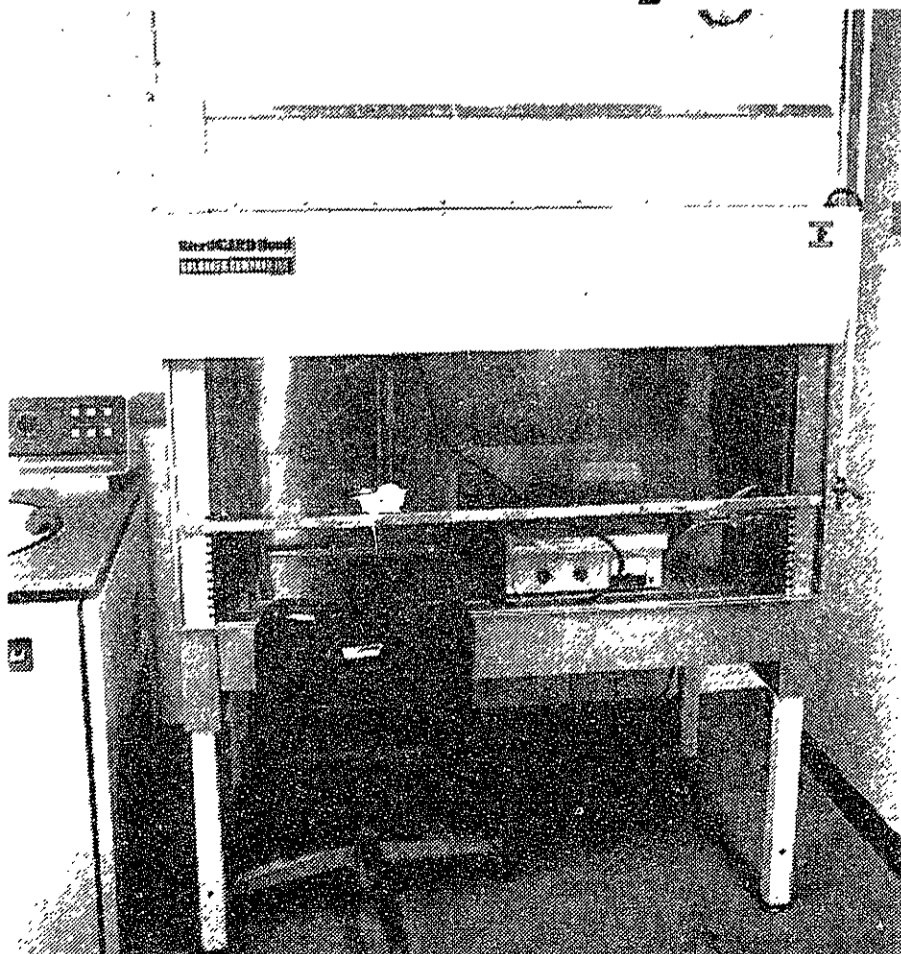
The controversy surrounding recombinant DNA research began almost as soon as the powerful technique was first developed.

The source of both the controversy and the power of the recombinant DNA technique lies in the ability of researchers to join a segment of DNA, any segment of DNA, to another segment which is known as the *vector*. The vector-foreign DNA complex is then inserted into a *host* — the bacterium *E. Coli*.

This permits the multiplication and isolation of DNA sequences from almost any source, thus providing a powerful method of studying how the genes present in those sequences operate. This understanding may give greater insight into diseases such as cancer and hereditary ailments.

The technique may also pose unknown dangers, since it is not

(Please turn to page 2)



Mark James

This special exhaust hood in the center for Cancer Research P3 recombinant DNA laboratory may be in use soon if Cambridge approves a report that favors allowing recombinant DNA research

# Recombinant DNA: Asilomar to Cambridge

(Continued from page 1)

understood exactly how the inserted DNA will function in its new organism. Some scientists fear that the new combinations of genes may change the host and make it dangerous to man.

The techniques are made possible by research done in the early 1970's. Enzymes were discovered which chop DNA at specific points along its length, leaving the fragments of the hereditary material with "sticky ends" which could easily be joined to other such molecules.

Papers giving examples of the use of recombinant DNA were read at the Gordon Research Conference on Nucleic Acids in 1973. Many members of the conference became concerned that the linkage of DNA from widely differing organisms could pose hazards that had never before been encountered. The conference voted to draft a letter which appeared in *Science* magazine in September of 1973.

The letter stated that "certain

## MIT ready to begin P3 work

(Continued from page 1)

said that most of the procedures required by the NIH have been completed, so that he would be able to start an experiment fairly soon after receiving Cambridge approval.

Sharp plans to use the technique to study DNA from mice. By linking the mouse DNA to that of a virus, and then inserting this recombinant DNA into the bacterium *E. Coli*, he expects to be able to produce many copies of one sequence of mouse DNA in pure form.

"You can't get the same type of purity" by any other method, according to Sharp.

The laboratory in which Sharp and the other researchers expect to perform their experiments has been completed and certified by the NIH as meeting P3 requirements.

The laboratory is located on the fifth floor of the Center for Cancer Research (Building E17). Very few modifications were necessary to meet P3 requirements, according to Sharp, who pointed out several features of the laboratory that exceed the NIH requirements:

- The ventilation system for the

such hybrid DNA molecules may prove hazardous to laboratory workers and to the public," and that "prudence suggests that the potential hazard be seriously considered."

A group of scientists was formed to study the research. Professor of Biology David Baltimore was a member of this group, which was led by Paul Berg of Stanford.

In a letter to *Science* on July 26, 1974, the group made the unprecedented recommendation that scientists voluntarily refrain from doing recombinant DNA experiments that fell within two classes: those that involved the transfer of genes for antibiotic resistance or toxin production from one bacterium to another, and those that involved genes from animal viruses.

They also called for a committee of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to study the experiments, and for an international meeting of scientists to exchange information on recombinant

room, which takes air out of the laboratory and filters it to remove bacteria, was isolated from that used for the rest of the floor.

- A backup ventilation system was provided to insure that the room is always under negative air pressure with respect to the outside. Negative pressure is required by the NIH to prevent the escape of organisms carried by air escaping through cracks.
- A special floor having small pores designed to exclude contamination was installed.

The *E. Coli* bacteria used in the experiment will be the special type known as 1776, a strain which was developed to be weak and unable to survive outside the laboratory. The NIH has approved this strain as being in the EK2 class, meaning that the chance of survival outside the laboratory is estimated to be one one hundred millionth of that of the normal laboratory strain K12.

Acting Chairman of the MIT Biohazards Committee Melvin Chalfen said that the CLERB recommendations, which include setting up a Cambridge Biohazard Committee (CBC) to oversee the supervision of the

DNA and make an informed judgement on the risks involved.

The International Conference on Recombinant DNA Molecules, held at Asilomar, Calif. in February of 1975 replaced the moratorium started by Berg's group with a set of temporary rules for conducting research. The rules were stringent enough to make it impossible to satisfy them for many of the experiments, so that the moratorium was effectively still in force.

The NIH committee of scientists began by naming a subcommittee to draft a set of guidelines for safely doing recombinant research. The subcommittee presented its first draft to the full committee in July at Woods Hole. The rules proposed by the subcommittee were weakened at this meeting, a move which drew criticism from many, including Berg. A new subcommittee was formed at the request of the director of the NIH.

The final guidelines as ap-

proved in December, 1975, were stricter than those laid down at Asilomar. They define two types of containment (techniques used to prevent the escape of the host organism) — physical and biological. Physical containment attempts to stop an organism from being taken out of the lab; biological containment involves designing strains of host bacteria that cannot survive outside the laboratory if they do escape.

The NIH guidelines specify four levels of physical containment — P1 through P4. P1 is satisfied by an ordinary laboratory; P4 specifies a lab with airlocks, sealed cabinets for experiments, and other precautions such as were used for germ warfare experimentation at Fort Detrick, Md.

Three levels of biological containment are defined by the NIH. EK1 allows use of the normal K12 strain of *E. Coli*, which is not

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Three levels of biological containment are defined by the NIH. EK1 allows use of the normal K12 strain of *E. Coli*, which is not

a normal resident in the human intestine but can sometimes survive there. EK2 specifies a host that is expected to be able to survive outside the laboratory  $10^{-8}$  times as well as K12. EK3 is similar to EK2, except that the  $10^{-8}$  probability has been verified by actual experimentation with animals.

These guidelines still left some persons unsatisfied. Robert Sinsheimer of the California Institute of Technology advocated limiting the research to one site so that it could be better controlled. He expressed fears about what might happen when the genes of higher organisms were inserted into bacteria.

Others were upset that the NIH group did not have any representation from non-scientists, and that several of its members were interested in doing the types of experiments the group was at-

(Please turn to page 3)

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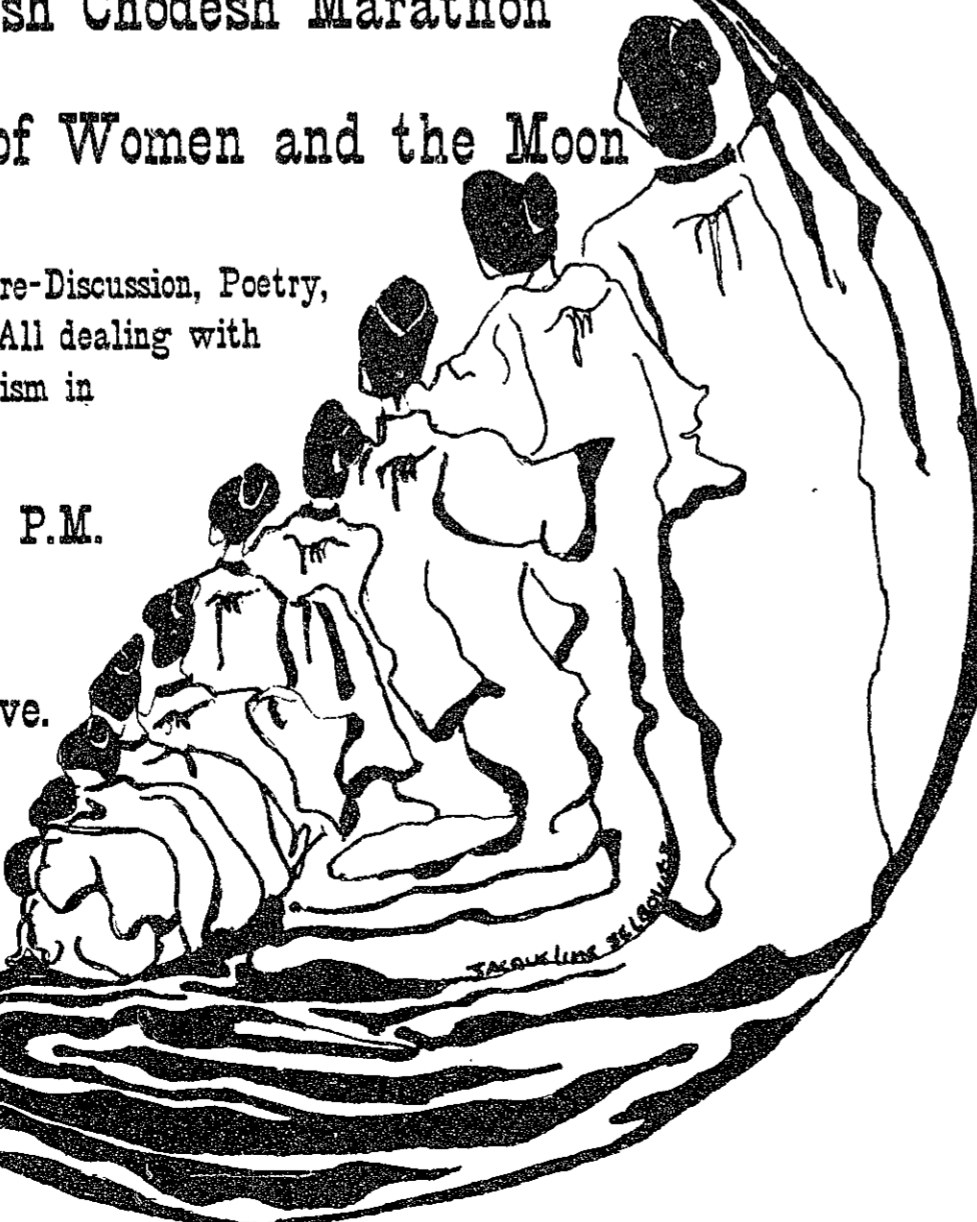
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# Cambridge debates DNA

(Continued from page 2)

tempting to regulate. Some people felt that the research was too dangerous to do at all.

In June of 1976 an article in the *Boston Phoenix* touched off the controversy in Cambridge by revealing Harvard's plans to remodel a section of their Biological Sciences Building to meet the P3 standards. Cambridge Mayor Alfred Vellucci voiced concern about conducting this research in Cambridge, and the City council held public hearings in early July of 1976.

The hearings drew a large crowd and attracted the testimony of several well-known scientists from throughout the US. After around eight hours of testimony the Council voted a three-month moratorium on P3 and P4 research in Cambridge, and named a panel to study the safety of recombinant research.

The Cambridge Laboratory Experimentation Review Board heard testimony from many experts through the summer and into the fall. The Board requested an extension of the moratorium in

October so that it would have more time to complete its work.

The Board's final report, released January 5, came out in favor of allowing P3 work in Cambridge, but also specified several other safety measures beyond the NIH guidelines. The report was praised by representatives from both sides of the issue, although opponents such as Associate Professor of Biology Jonathan King, still disagreed with its conclusion — that recombinant DNA research should be allowed in Cambridge.

# Malnutrition lowers incomes

(Continued from page 1)

children as a prime cause of lowered resistance to disease and high child mortality in countries which are short of food. This high child mortality, which may be from 10 to 40 times that in developed countries, makes it difficult for parents to accept family planning.

He explained that parents must depend on their children for support when the parents grow old; therefore they hesitate to exercise birth control because they fear that none of their offspring will reach adulthood if there are fewer children.

Widespread undetected malnutrition was also cited as an insidious problem in third world countries. In a study done with rubber plantation workers, who were paid solely on an incentive basis, it was found that the workers with the highest salaries also had the highest levels of iron in their daily diet. In an iron supplementation experiment the per capita increase in income among malnourished workers was as high as thirty to forty per cent after receiving the supplement.

Scrimshaw said that the cost of iron supplementation is "negligible." When asked why such a program had not begun, Scrimshaw replied that the reasons were purely political. He also emphasized that the tragedy of blindness due to vitamin A deficiency is also "totally unnecessary."

Although the Green Revolution — the application of genetics to development of faster-growing crops and the use of current technology in farming — has been applied to the three main food supply crops, wheat, rice and maize, little has been done to improve farming methods for the twenty other major crops.

Scrimshaw warned, however, that the Green Revolution only "buys time," during which population growth must be brought under control. An example is Mexico, a country which reached self-sufficiency in food production in 1970 after the application of science in agriculture for over two decades. Mexico is no longer self-sufficient because population increased in direct response to the growing food supply, thus creating a potential disaster in the future.

Other remedies for the world food shortage presented by Scrimshaw were processing of

trash fish (those which are commercially unsalable), processing of Arctic crill (a type of shrimp that whales feed on), and the development of oil seed protein and vegetable milks. Also mentioned were "single-cell protein" products which could be produced by large-scale culturing of bacteria.

To underscore the importance of world nutrition problems Scrimshaw stated that the world is approaching a socio-economic discontinuity of similar proportions to that which occurred at the beginning of the Industrial Revolution.

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A memorial service for Steven L. Horn will be held Saturday, January 15, at 2pm in the MIT Chapel. Horn, a sophomore, died on Christmas evening of injuries suffered when he was hit by a car while jogging on the Harvard Bridge. A resident of Burton House, Horn was a Navy ROTC scholarship student majoring in chemical engineering, and a member of the MIT heavyweight crew.

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## Amazing Grace

When Grace Slick canceled her reservations on the Jefferson Airplane and booked passage on the Jefferson Starship, her switch was at least nominally symbolic of a new musical era for the *White Rabbit* crew. But there have been few changes in the mind of the lead singer. Now, totally spaced and a mother besides, Grace still has no inhibitions aside from the Chevy engine in her Aston Martin. Amazing Grace brings us all up to date in the current issue of OUI. Some other Sixties holdovers are those FBI files on radicals. Robert Wieder, also in the current OUI, tracks his file down — with great difficulty — in *Nailing Your Files*, while Anita Hoffman, Abbie's better half, tells you what's in the folders of the famous. Meanwhile, David Dalton attends a charm school for transsexuals to divine the mysteries of feminine behavior and OUI asks, "Where has everything gone?" in *Strange Vanishings*, an investigation into the disappearance of just about anything. Naturally, there's more — B movies, Mexican food, tennis addiction, CIA blunders, cross-country skiing and more than a little bare skin. But you have to ask for it at your newsstand. That's easy, though. Just say OUI.



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## Battle of the Nickname: Beavers vs. Engineers

By Glenn Brownstein

Why are certain MIT athletic teams known as Engineers, some as Beavers, some as Techmen (which used to be the worst possible insult to an MIT student), some as nothing particular at all? In the past few years it has been the fashion to refer to all teams but baseball as the Engineers, simply because the outside world thinks of MIT as an engineering school and nothing else, probably.

However, we still get class rings called "Brass Rats" with a seedy, toothy, beaver pictured building his next dam. Beavers are the most engineer-like animal, we are told. Of course, recent events indicate that beaver dams have at least as much chance of weathering a storm as man-made ones. So why not change back to Beavers for all teams?



Baseball has remained the Beavers because in the past MIT squads were referred to as the Bonnie Beavers. During the spring of 1973 *The Tech* ran a series of Bonnie Beaver baseball cards, just like the bubble gum variety in every way, except for our cheaper paper stock.

As far as I'm concerned, we should either adopt one uniform name, Engineers or Beavers, or change it entirely.

Our school colors, cardinal and silver, lend themselves to a number of names — there's no reason to put equipment manager John Murphy through hell just for consistency. For example, how about the Silver Foxes or the Cardinals? Cardinals has one distinct advantage: it has none of the possible negative connotations that Foxes, Beavers, or Engineers have, and it necessitates no change of color. Some may argue that a class ring tradition will be shattered — imagine a "Brass Bird" — but if we continue to call MIT teams "Engineers," where's the little nurd punching his HP-45 on the ring face? One way to solve the problem: change our nickname to the Monkeys — it'd give our ring a new name and connotation.

We don't have to change our ring or our colors, but we need to be consistent. At the present time, the water polo, swimming, baseball, hockey, basketball, and lacrosse teams have decided that they want to be Beavers. Many of the women's teams do not want to be Engineers. Most of the other teams haven't been polled, and so they stay the Engineers. At least we don't have a perceived moral problem, like Stanford or Dartmouth.

Stanford used to be the Indians, but the depiction of a savage on football helmets and other game uniforms upset a sizable portion of the campus, so the California school switched to Cardinals, a name that is both innocent and preserves the school colors of cardinal and white. Dartmouth also had the name Indians (or "Big Green") until recently, but last year switched to "Woodsmen" as less offensive and still preserving the Northern New England mountain heritage.

To clear up this madness, I have a suggestion. As of today, *The Tech* will refer to the aforementioned teams as Beavers and welcome a response from other squads as to what they desire to be called. We'd like an answer from everyone, if possible: it's easier to write and read copy that employs more than one name for a team. The high school I attended used to refer to teams by their coaches' names: examples here would be Chasseymen, O'Brienmen, or Alessimen. My impression is to forget about a method like that as quickly as possible.

No we need one nickname, one that everyone likes. I personally like Beavers (or maybe Cardinals); a dancing beaver at courtside in the Cage might be a fun idea, but an eleven-foot-high programmable calculator just doesn't make the grade. Engineers only helps preserve the "Tech Tool" stereotype, and I think we should get rid of it — it hasn't been our official nickname for decades.

"e to the x du dx" is outdated: "slipstick, sliderule" has to be changed. So does Engineers. Teams and coaches, give us your verdict: should it be Beavers, Engineers, or something else?

### The Tech

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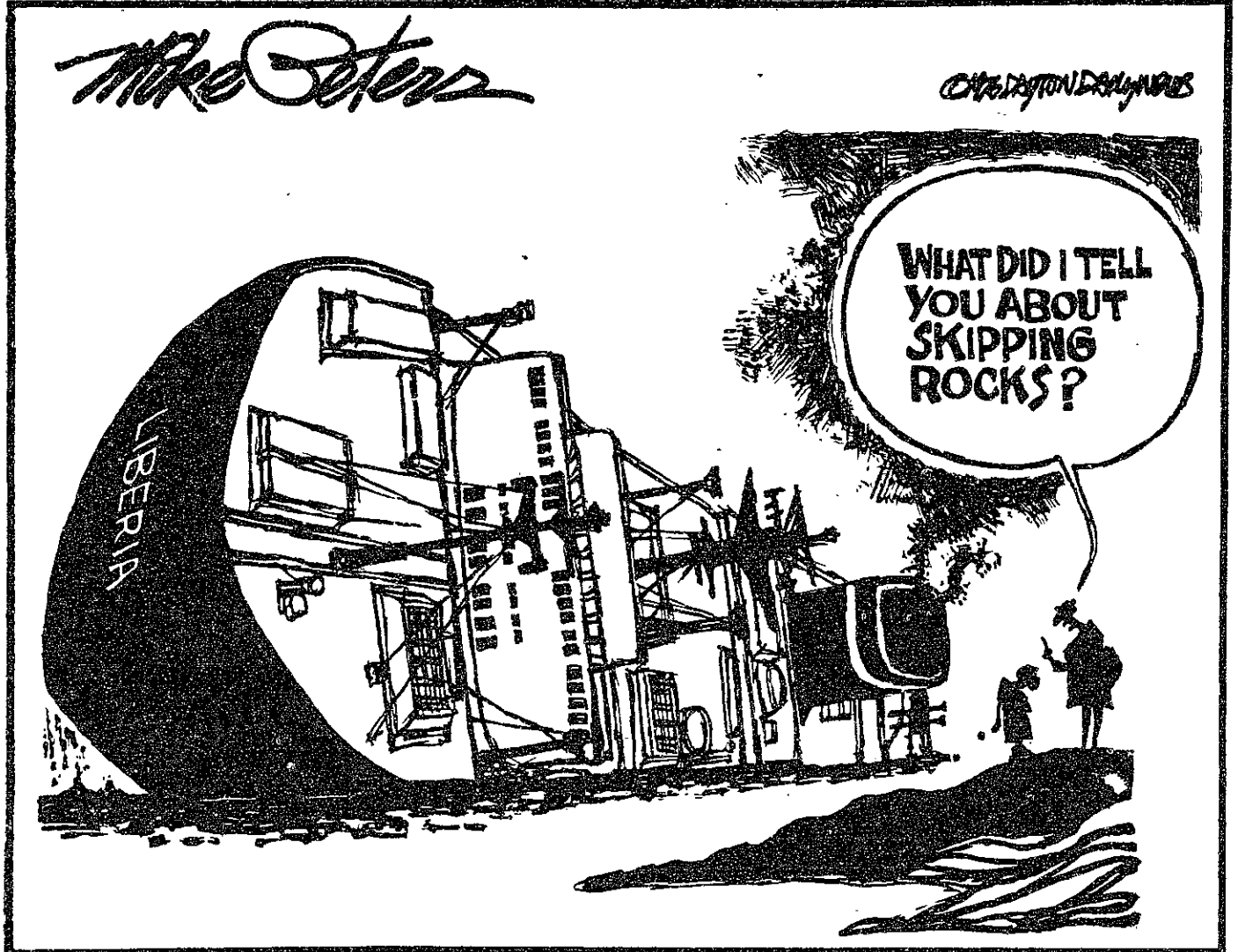
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### Commentary

## Inaugurations: clear optimism

By William Lasser

The new president is administered the oath of office, and immediately addresses his countrymen. He calls for "equal and exact justice to all men, of whatever state or persuasion, religious or political; peace, commerce, and honest friendship with all nations..." The date is March 4, 1801, the speaker Thomas Jefferson.

More than 130 years later another newly-elected president, Franklin D. Roosevelt, boldly tells the American people that

Address is perhaps one of the most remembered. "With malice towards none," he said proudly, "with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us the right, let us strive to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds... to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations." President Carter might well consider those words. Lincoln added, undoubtedly thinking about the bitter civil war which was still in progress, "The Almighty has His

There is nothing quite resembling a first inaugural address. The President is making his first official address to the nation; his words are no longer the rhetoric of the campaign, but rather Presidential statements of policy and philosophy. It will be interesting to see how Carter faces up to the challenge — whether his words reflect those of the campaign or whether they signal a new approach to the country's problems.

It is not necessary that Carter's speech contain material which will someday find its way into Bartlett's Familiar Quotations. Andrew Jackson, who in 1829 was the main attraction at the first "people's inaugural," said very little in taking office. The men and women attending the ceremonies — the "mob," as the Jeffersonians considered them — spoke for him by their mere presence. Jackson showed immediately that he was the first "president of the people."

President Carter's speech on Thursday may not differ significantly from the hundreds of stump speeches he made throughout the campaign. Even so, whatever he says now takes on a new meaning. His words are now entitled to rank not with those of candidates, but with those of Presidents.

The inauguration of an unknown Georgia peanut farmer speaks volumes about the nation, the South and the American political system as a whole. Perhaps, like Andrew Jackson, Carter will not spoil his moment in the sun with meaningless oratory.

### political spectrum

"the only thing we have to fear is fear itself" and pledges to dedicate the nation "to the policy of being a good neighbor."

For nearly 200 years, American presidents have spoken to the people on their first day in office. Their speeches often set the tone of their administrations and of the nation. Presidents have addressed the nation in glorious times and in bleak ones, during war and peace, after winning landslide victories and after winning preciously narrow ones.

But always the message is one of hope and commitment. Inaugural addresses reflect the mood of the country; they show how we have grown and changed, but also how we have remained the same. In his first Inaugural Address, Jefferson warned of "entangling alliances"; in his fourth, Roosevelt asserted that "We have learned that we cannot live alone at peace... We have learned to be citizens of the world, members of the human community." Nevertheless, throughout both speeches we can see the same vision of America, the same clear optimism.

"We are not enemies, but friends," said Abraham Lincoln in 1861, and his observation is well applied on Inauguration Day when Democrats and Republicans unite behind the man who will set the political, economic and emotional pulse of the nation for four years. "We are all Republicans — we are all Federalists," declared Jefferson, and, though the names and philosophies of the parties have changed, he is essentially still correct.

Lincoln's second Inaugural

own purposes."

President Kennedy observed that his election to the highest office in the land was "not a victory of party but a celebration of freedom, symbolizing an end as well as a beginning, signifying renewal as well as change." Kennedy was correct — the inauguration of a new President is a striking symbol that America's unique quadrennial political convulsion is over, and has worked. He concluded: "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country."

Lyndon Baines Johnson, taking office during the trauma which fell upon the nation after Kennedy's assassination, told the Congress and the people that "All I have I would have given gladly not to be standing here today." Johnson's words summed up the national feeling of loss and despair. He asked the American people humbly for "your help, and God's."

### feedback

## A philistine art view

To The Editor:

For those just tuning in, Steven Shladover and I are locked in an altercation which, viewed in a larger context, is central to modern art criticism. It began with Mr. Shladover, who blasted Tech derogators of *Transparent Horizons* and *Reclining Figure* for their "ignorant" attitude, and who proceeded to indicate in two places that we local sculpture scorers were demonstrating a lack of understanding. Enter

myself. Like a poker player sensing a bluff, I asked Mr. Shladover if he would perform a public service and enlighten us philistines about the positive aspects of either *TH* or *RF* of which we were ignorant.

Mr. Shladover has now responded. Sort of. After attacking me for failure to spell out my antipathy for the sculptures (as though I should have furnished this information before it was

(Please turn to page 5)

# opinion cont.

## Art for the philistine

(Continued from page 4)  
 asked of me), he refuses to do the same on their behalf! Says he, "Sculpture, and indeed painting and music as well, are not susceptible to verbal translations — attempts invariable result in the purplest of prose." (Too true, Mr. Shladover! That's why so little of what now passes for art criticism is actually that. The great bulk of it is imaginative literature in which an art work will be assigned sundry attributes drawn wholly from the writer's fertile brain. Or it is straightforward description of the journalistic sort.) It seems reasonable to expect that Mr. Shladover would extend the difficulties and disadvantages of rendering into language one's partiality for art works to naysaying as well. But, lo, what is this? Once again I am indicted for revealing a lack of "understanding [for] the language of Henry Moore [and] Louise Nevelson" that puts me "in no position to contend that their works are worthless or meaningless" (a contention, incidentally, that I never made). Our modernist never displaying any knowledge of that language himself, doesn't seem to be in any position to judge Moore and Nevelson either. His assertion to the contrary notwithstanding, Mr. Shladover once again forces me to tentatively conclude that to understand an art work is to have the same opinion of it as he.

From his letters it seems that the way in which one comes to understand the Moore-Nevelson

languages is by looking at *RF* and *TH* at great length. More than once I am upbraided for having looked at those items for an insufficient amount of time in a narrow frame of mind. How on Earth our modernist knows how long and in what disposition I looked at *RF* and *TH* I cannot say. If mine were the same opinions of them as his, chances are he would now be claiming that I have looked at them long enough. His attitude reminds me of the academic phenomenon that a friend of mine calls the Infinite Tolerance syndrome. Let the college professor find out that his students don't like an art work he approves of, and he will get down on his knees and plead for patience, tolerance, an open mind, etc. (As though a contrary opinion of necessity results from an absence of those virtues.) But let him suspect that the same people like certain modern works (e.g., Wyeth, Parrish, The Beatles, science fiction) that he does not care for, then it'll be a case of the-hell-with-them. Stay away from them. They're harmful. Bad Taste.

To avoid misunderstanding, let me assert that there is a lot to be said for tolerance. Complex musical compositions like *Tristan*, *Elektra*, *Le Sacre* and Beethoven's late quartets, as Mr. Shladover correctly points out, cannot be intelligently dismissed after one hearing. Generally speaking, the more complex the item, the more time must be spent trying to fathom it. Agreeing with

HI.. REMEMBER THOSE FABULOUS SIXTIES ? CAMELOT ?.. THE NEW FRONTIER ?.. GREAT SOCIETY ? WELL, I'M TED SORENSEN.. AND WE'VE PUT TOGETHER TWENTY OF YOUR ALL-TIME GOLDEN OLDIES IN ONE SUPER PACKAGE. YES, NEVER BEFORE HAS SUCH A CLASSIC COLLECTION BEEN AVAILABLE AT SUCH A LOW, LOW...



Mr. Shladover about this observation, I must now point out to him that it can be used with telling effect *against* his efforts on behalf of *RF* and *TH*. It is here that his argument collapses, it if hasn't already. *Tristan et al* are complex musical works. *RF* and *TH*, on the other hand, are simple art works in what is by its very nature a simple art form compared to music and literature. In general, the visual arts, except for film, are relatively simple media. One can spend months laboring over *Tristan*, *Ulysses*, *War and Peace*, *The Waste Land*, Beethoven's late quartets. A piece of sculpture, on the other hand,

can be summarized by the eye in a matter of minutes, if not seconds. The fact that a sculptured work can be summarized quickly accounts for the inferior popularity of that art form compared to music, literature and film. (The arts achieve definition by virtue of extension into space do not command and hold most people's attention as well as those that achieve definition through extension into time.) It also explains why few people, including sculpture fans, ever stand before a statue for more than a minute or two at a time despite the familiar cliché that one-can-look-at-a-great-sculpture-for-hours-and-days-on-end-and-still-find-something-new-in-it.

Transparent Horizons and *Reclining Figure* are simple items. Unlike *Tristan, et al.* there is nothing about them to suggest

complexity or rarity of talent. Either could have been designed by any number of MIT undergraduates. Consequently, when Mr. Shladover is asked to explain what it is that we philistines don't understand about them, he remains silent. He tells us nothing about what there is to understand, because there is *nothing to understand*. One's response to them is instinctive and, like the art works themselves, capricious. No matter how long one looks at them, one's opinion of them will remain a caprice. One either likes them or one does not. And who's to say that one opinion is right and the other wrong? After all, as Voltaire observed two hundred years ago, "If a person says that he is bored, I cannot tell him that he is wrong."

Roger Kolb



MIT students turned out in large numbers for a spontaneous burial of the controversial *Transparent Horizons* last Friday evening. A Campus Patrolman commented: "It's better than painting it."

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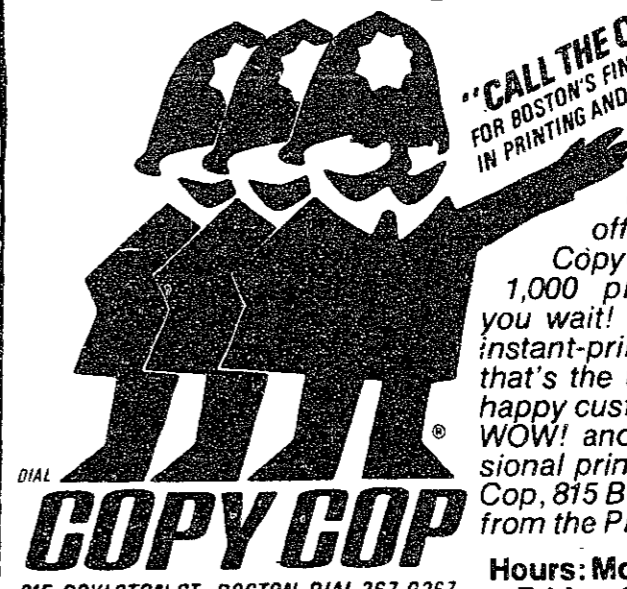
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## McCartney's live Wings, Queen's Races Superb

By David B. Koretz

*Wings Over America* — Wings (Capitol)

Early last autumn Capitol Records announced plans to release by Christmas a live three-record set by Paul McCartney and Wings, to be compiled from the group's recent nationwide tour.

Those supposedly in the know couldn't help but expect a typical holiday season package aimed at pleasing McCartney's teen legions.

Not many people were more surprised than I when *Wings Over America* turned out to be the most impressive, exciting live album since Yes released the classic *Yes-songs* four years ago.

From the opening track, one suspects that this album may be something special. "Venus and Mars/Rock Show/Jet," a medley of Wings hits, is bright and vibrant, while the performance, though live, is unusually disciplined.

After "Spirits of Ancient Egypt" and "Maybe I'm Amazed" are mixed in with several less familiar tunes, McCartney really comes alive with reasonably faithful renditions of "Lady Madonna" and "The Long and Winding Road," two classics he sang as a Beatle.

The group finishes off the incredible first disc in style, bringing their audience to several ovations during "Live and Let Die," the James Bond title song which became as popular as the movie.

Sides three and four could not be expected to hit the level of the previous two, but McCartney's fellow musicians at least give a good account of themselves by moving smoothly through an assortment of lesser Wings songs.

The Wings, besides the former Beatle, are Linda McCartney, keyboards; Denny Laine, electric and acoustic guitars; Jimmy McCullough, bass and other guitars; and Joe English, drums. In this album credit is also given to a four-member brass section.

The middle disc is highlighted by the mellow Beatles tunes "Blackbird" and "Yesterday," and topped off by the recent pop hit "Listen to what the Man Said."

With side five the concert picks up its former fast pace, offering in succession four songs from the Wings' most recent studio album, *At the Speed of Sound*.

"Let 'em in" and "Silly Love Songs," the group's two most recent pop singles, are played almost flippantly, as if to assure the audience that even the musicians don't take the tunes seriously.

The final side begins with "Letting Go,"

a fine rocker, then moves into "Band on the Run." The climax of this song ("Well, the rain exploded with a mighty crash...") is also the climax of the album.

McCartney finishes with "Hi, Hi, Hi," a lively hit, and "Soily," a selection that, though forceful, is downbeat enough to make it clear that the end is at hand.

*Wings Over America*, according to Capitol, was painstakingly produced, McCartney himself going over the tape from each of the concerts in the tour. The fine performances and the excellent quality of the recording reflect hard work, both by the musicians and by the technicians.

With this album, McCartney casts aside his teen idol image by putting out nearly two hours of superb live rock. Perhaps he has finally found the finesse lacking since the breakup of the Beatles over six years ago.

*A Day at the Races* — Queen (Elektra)

In the beginning there was Brian May's guitar, a brilliant instrument capable of almost earth-shaking pyrotechnics, but often sweet and lyrical. Its music was called Queen.

Of course, the magic of Brian May's guitar alone was not Queen, which included the Fender bass of John Deacon, the drums of Roger Taylor, and the raspy voice of Freddie Mercury as well.

With time, that voice became polished, trained, and eventually quite skilled; so skilled, in fact, that on Queen's fourth album — *A Night at the Opera* — the beauty and power of the voice matched that of the guitar.

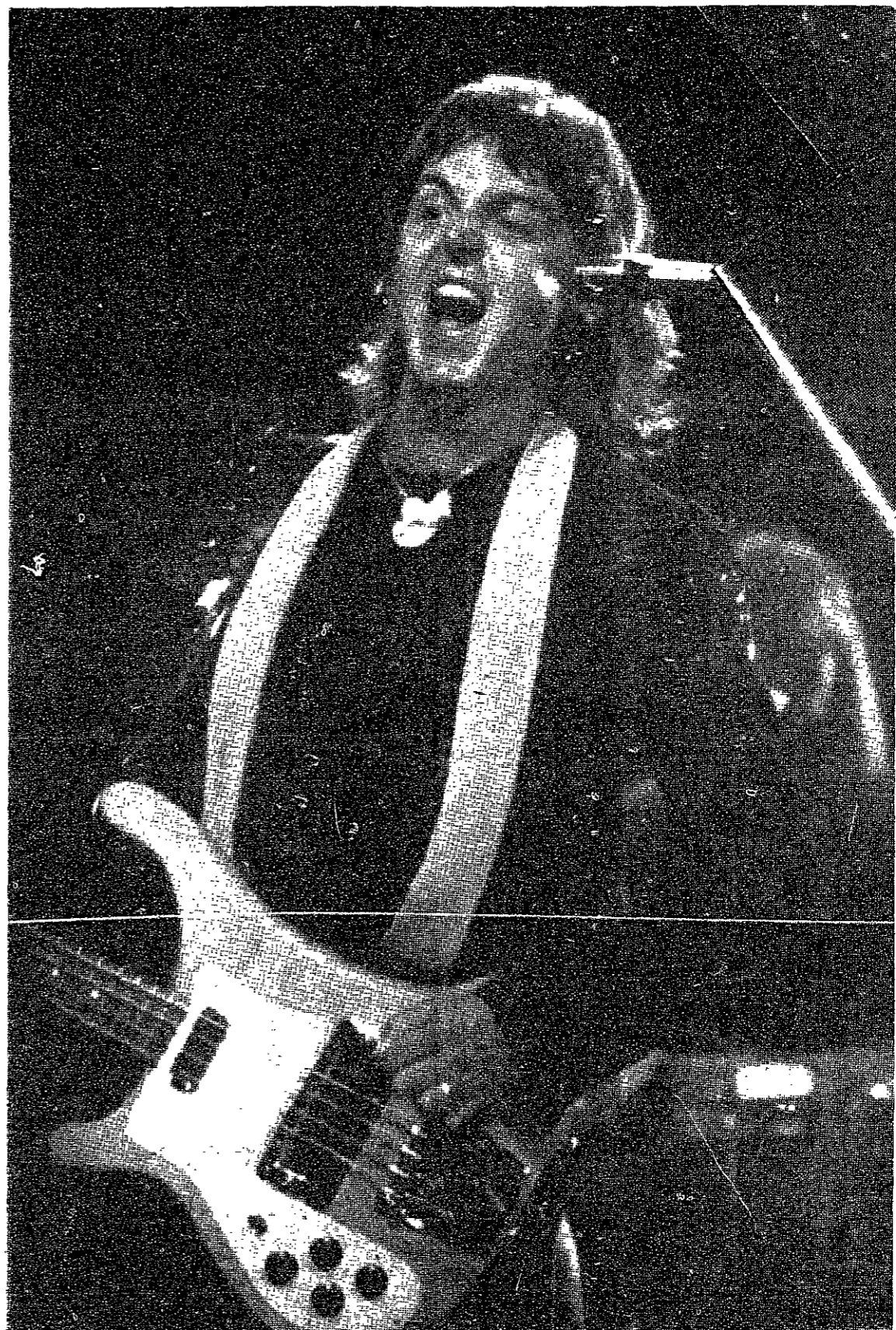
Combined with the rhythm of Taylor's percussion and the force of Deacon's bass, *A Night at the Opera* became a rock landmark and a turning point for Queen, catapulting them to stardom.

Unfortunately, on *A Day at the Races*, Queen carried the changes just a bit too far. May's venerated guitar fades into the distance, while Mercury's vocals are overbearing.

What worked in moderation for the innovative "Bohemian Rhapsody" a year ago does not work in excess for "Somebody to Love," the group's first single off this album.

Three other cuts from *A Day at the Races* suffer from the Mercury malaise. In spite of them, however, the album is terrific.

On the first side, ballads called "Long



Away" and "You and I" come on well balanced among the different sounds, creating the effect Queen achieved with hard-driving tunes like "Killer Queen" and "You're my Best Friend."

On the flip, following the aforementioned single, the sound improves with each track. "White Man" and "Drowse," a pretty Roger Taylor song, are fantastic, but once again, Queen saves the best for last.

"Teo Torriatte (Let us Cling Together)" is easily the best cut on the disc. This is a powerful, moving ballad with two chorus

repetitions sung in Japanese. The rhythmic beauty of the Japanese lyrics nicely offsets the raw force of May's guitar riffs, and the effect of the entire song is one of love, and of hope ("Let us cling together as the years go by...").

The warmth and beauty of this last song are powerful enough to find a place for the album in anyone's heart. In fact, the record as a whole is the best Queen has produced to date, but I can't help wondering what could have been, and what should have been.

## Mendelssohn 4th: triumph for Davis, BSO

By William Lasser

*Mendelssohn: Italian Symphony* — Colin Davis, Boston Symphony Orchestra (Philips)

Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy composed the Italian Symphony (No. 4 in A) in the early 1830's. It is a classic among early Romantic symphonies, remarkably tuneful and simple, yet with the clear touch of the master at every step.

Mendelssohn began working on the symphony while in Italy (hence the name) and the music reflects the composer's impressions of that country. He described the work, while it was still in its early stages, as "the merriest piece I have yet composed, especially the last movement." The thematic material in the fourth movement is taken directly from Italian dance tunes.

All of the joy and vibrance which the composer — and countless millions of music-lovers — have recognized in this masterpiece are captured in an outstanding performance by Colin Davis and the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Davis, who is principal guest conductor of that group as well as music director of the Royal Opera at Covent Garden, England, has come into his own in the past few years with definitive recordings of Handel's *Messiah* and Mozart's *Così Fan Tutti*. Now, he shows that he is equally proficient with the early Romantic Period.

Davis's rendition is a return to what might be called classical Romanticism, in which the works of composers such as Mendelssohn are played more like Mozart than like Brahms. The rhythm is regular and crisp; the loud passages are loud and the soft passages are soft; the endings are neat and concise.

The quality of the recording is excellent, allowing the full flavor of Davis's controlled but powerful orchestra to present itself. The conductor keeps the orchestra constantly under his command; in the final movement this allows him to increase the intensity of the music gradually and effortlessly, leading to a stirring finale. One misses only the expected surge of applause and emotion which would be heard if the work were played before a live audience.

Along with the Italian symphony, Davis plays on the same record excerpts of the incidental music, by the same composer, to *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Davis seems less comfortable with this work, at least in the first few excerpts, although he soon regains his form, concluding with a fine performance of the *Wedding March*.

There can be no complaints about a conductor who is beginning to emerge as one of the world's finest. His expertise, which previously had included the Baroque and Classical eras, clearly now includes Mendelssohn and the early Romantics as well. Davis is a talent of unmeasurable potential.



# Police Blotter

(The Police Blotter is a report written by the Campus Patrol on crimes, incidents, and actions on the MIT campus each week.)

The Police Blotter has been suspended for the past few weeks due to the Christmas Holidays. The absence of ever active students on the campus has not lessened the trials and tribulations encountered by the Campus Police in their preventive patrols.

A report was received relative to the larceny of a motor vehicle from Memorial Drive near the Sailing Pavilion. Your attention is called to the fact that overactive auto thieves consider the river side of Memorial Drive as a "soft

touch."

Officers responding to an intrusion alarm in the vicinity of Building 38 encountered two students within. Both said that they were fighting post-finals boredom by exploring the Institute. The frustrated students were requested by the C.P. to confine their activities to non-restricted areas.

The observation of a lad from 14 to 16 years of age was made by cruising car officers while patrolling the campus. The vehicle was later involved in an accident in the vicinity of Portland St. and had been abandoned by the youth. This same vehicle had been

stolen earlier in the month from the Albany Garage and at that time was recovered a few blocks from the campus.

The Campus Police encountered an individual in the lobby of Building 7 in a confused condition. A check showed that he had been treated for mental problems on several occasions. A parent of the person was called, who picked up and returned his son safely home.

Several vehicles were broken and entered in both the garage areas and on the streets. Again the Campus Police issue a warning against leaving exposed property in parked vehicles.

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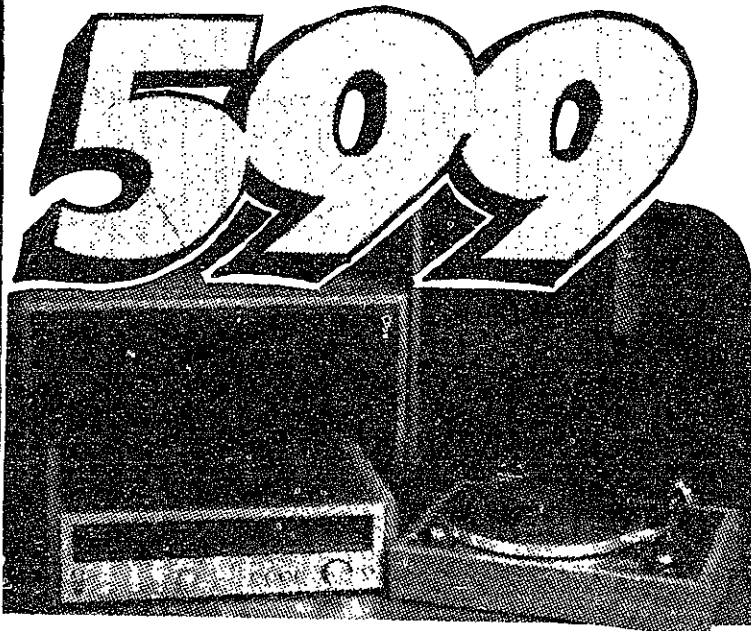
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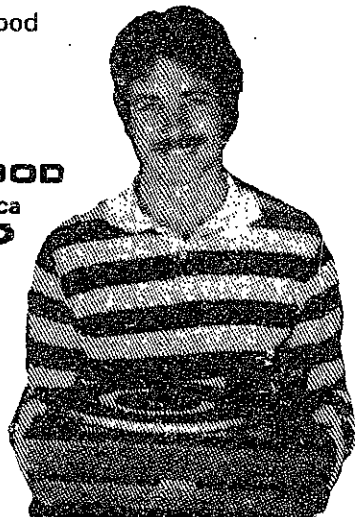
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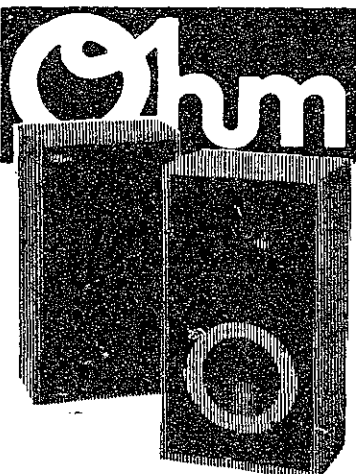
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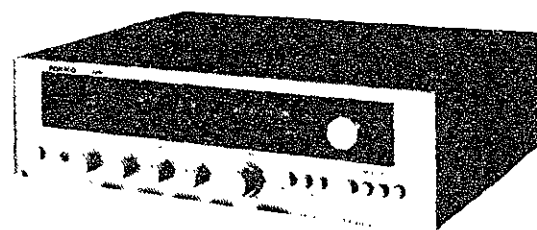


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# sports

## Undefeated Eckerd toppled by cagers

By Glenn Brownstein

Although the remainder of its southern trip was not as successful, the MIT men's varsity basketball team gained some measure of satisfaction by upsetting previously undefeated Eckerd College 92-79 in the first game of the Beavers' tour through Dixie last Friday night.

The Tritons, hosts of the Suncoast Classic in St. Petersburg, Florida, had scheduled MIT in the first round of the tourney in hopes of getting an easy path to the finals against heavy favorite Transylvania, but the Beavers, playing their best game of the season, thwarted Eckerd's plan.

Guards Tom Berman '79 (27) and captain Peter Maimonis '77 (21) paced MIT's winning attack by combining for more than half of the Beavers' points. Maimonis hit six foul shots in the last minute of play to seal MIT's win and secure the upset.

Eckerd, playing a 1-2-2 zone, took an 8-2 lead after three minutes of the game but then inexplicably switched to a man-to-man setup. The Beavers took advantage of the alignment by scoring layup after layup, and after trimming away the deficit built a 45-35 lead at the half.

For much of the second half, MIT handled Eckerd's zone well, and accumulated a 16-point lead with but 8:07 to play. Yet the Tritons, 8-0 to that point and determined to make MIT its ninth victim, staged a whirlwind rally in just four minutes, slicing the visitors' margin to 74-71 with 3:36 remaining.

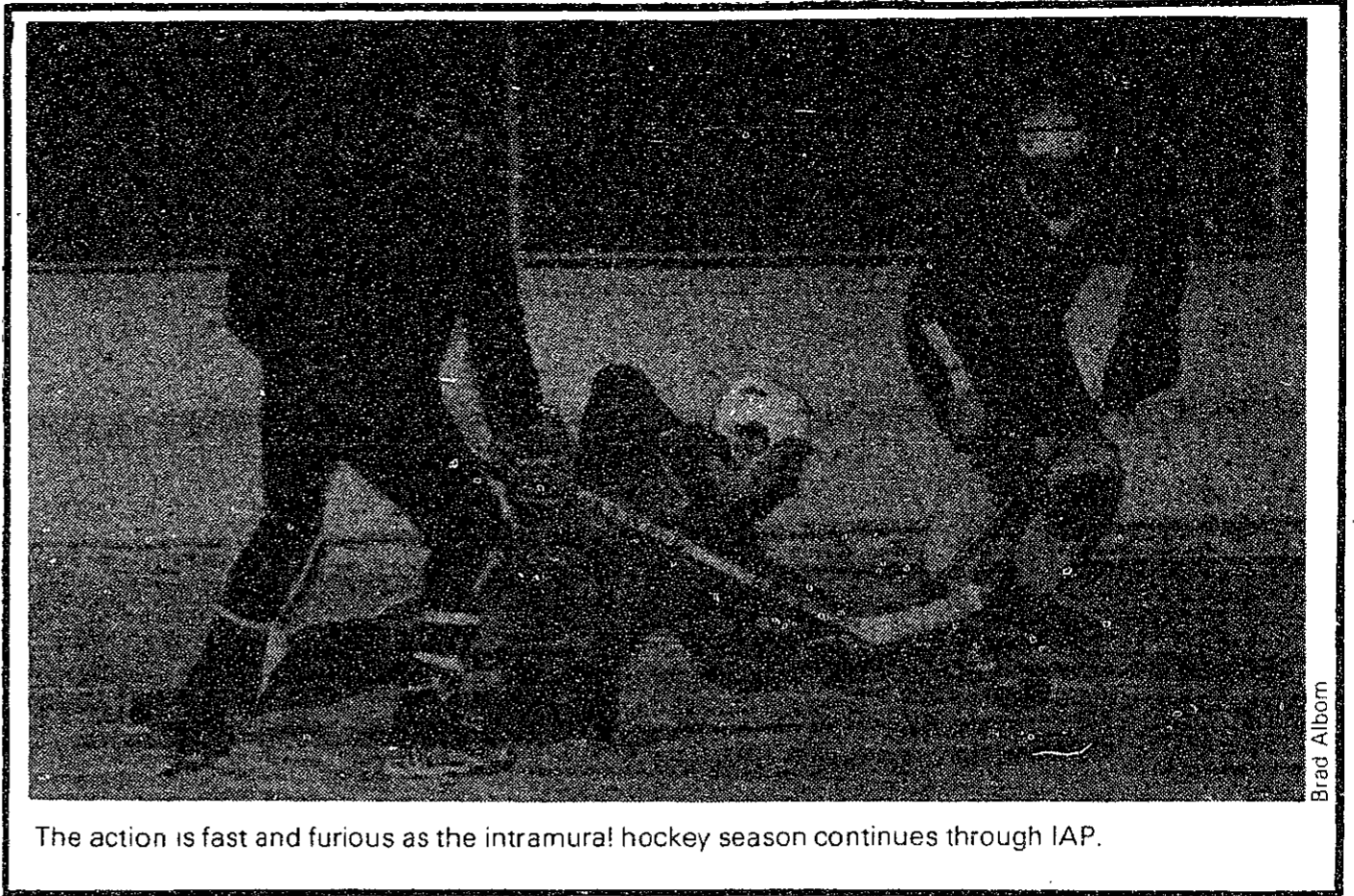
Fate, which so often

demonstrated its cruelty to MIT basketball teams in the past, changed its face for one evening. Eckerd's Jerry Jones appeared to intercept MIT's outlet pass after the Tritons had cut the Beaver lead to three, but he lost the handle on the ball and MIT forward John Cavolowsky '77 scooped it up and scored an easy breakaway layup.

Jones scored one minute later to bring Eckerd within three again, but two Cavolowsky baskets sandwiching a costly traveling violation called on Triton star guard Dirk Dunbar gave MIT a seven-point lead with just 1:30 left. Although Eckerd fouled repeatedly attempting to get the ball back, guards Berman and Maimonis completed all four one-and-one situations to wrap up the win.

Perhaps it was the letdown from the upset victory that caused the anticlimactic tourney final between MIT and Transylvania, winners over Washington (Maryland) in the first game Friday. More probably, it was Transy's three-inch average height advantage and searing 50 per cent outside shooting that did the Beavers in. At any rate, Transy's Pioneers rolled up a 20-4 lead in eight minutes and coasted to an 80-51 win over the out-matched MIT five.

The lone bright spots for the Beavers were Cavolowsky, who hit seven of nine field goal attempts and finished with 18 points, and Maimonis, who only scored one basket of his own but passed off for ten others. Cavolowsky was the lone MIT



The action is fast and furious as the intramural hockey season continues through IAP.

Brad Albom

player named to the all-tournament team, a squad dominated by Transy. Pioneer high scorer Jay Noel, who had 17 points in the final, was named the Suncoast Most Valuable Player.

Following the tournament, the Beavers spent two days motoring to Wilson, North Carolina to play Atlantic Christian College, a National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) team and the equivalent of an NCAA Division II squad. One could make a million excuses for MIT's lackluster performance Tuesday night against ACC, but regardless of the reasons for the Beavers' lack of motivation, Atlantic Christian's Bulldogs trounced MIT 93-62 in a game that featured little defense or excitement.

## 'Cliffies take WBB

By Tom Curtis

Numerous turnovers and poor rebounding sealed defeat for the women's varsity basketball team in their Wednesday game against Radcliffe.

Paced by Ellen Hart's 16 points, most of which came on fast breaks following steals, the Crimson overwhelmed the Engineers 57-25. High scorer for MIT was center Diane Ozelius '79 with twelve points.

MIT never really was in the game as Radcliffe scored the first six points of the game and cushioned their lead with a streak of nine points in the first half and a devastating seventeen-point

streak early in the second half.

The key to Radcliffe's victory was its ability to shut off the MIT offense. The Crimson continually intercepted passes as MIT futilely tried to work the ball to Ozelius who, at 6'1", was the tallest player on the court. Aggressive defense also led to several steals.

Another factor in Radcliffe's favor was the Crimson's superior rebounding. While the Engineers rarely got more than one shot on offense, Radcliffe consistently had two or more shots.

The Engineers, still looking for their first victory, play at Bentley Saturday and at Lowell University Wednesday.

## IM Hockey results

A-league	
ME 'A'	Plumbers .5
Metallurgy	Fiji/Baker .2
Metallurgy	ME 'A' .3

B-league	
SAE 'B'	Walker .1
Bexley	SPE .2
ME 'B'	DKE 'B' .1
MITNA	Montreal Express .3
Bexley	MITNA .2

C-league	
ZBT	Chi Phi .5
EC '2W'	Three-toed Sloths .4
ATO	TDC '2' .4
Theta Xi	MacGregor .9
PLP	DU .6
PDT	Tower Court East .3
Theta Xi	Russian House .5
Tower Court West	Les Spastiques .3
DKE 'C'	BTP .4
ATO	TEP .17
PKA	Theta Xi .2
SAE 'C'	LCA 'C' .4
TDC '2'	ZBT .4
SAE 'C'	SC 'In' .3
PKA	Russian House .5
PLP/AEPI	Theta Chi .7
Aero Astro	EC 'LSD' .5
PLP/AEPI	PDT .3
TDC '1'	PKS .4

A-league	W	L	TPts	GFGA
MechE 'A'	2	0	15	11 6
LCA 'A'	1	1	0	2 5 5
Metallurgy	0	0	2	2 5 5
Fiji/Baker	0	0	2	2 2 2
CHL	0	0	1	1 0 0
Plumbers	0	2	0	0 3 8

B-league	W	L	TPts	GFGA
ME 'B'	2	0	0	4 4 0
Bexley	2	1	0	4 5 5
DKE 'B'	2	2	0	4 7 3
Bio/Nuts	1	0	0	2 1 0
SAE 'B'	1	0	0	2 1 0
MITNA	1	1	0	2 4 3
SPE	0	1	0	0 0 2
Montreal Express	0	2	0	0 1 6
Walker	0	2	0	0 0 4

C1-league	W	L	TPts	GFGA
Biology	1	0	0	2 10 1
PBE/#6	1	0	0	2 5 2
Aero/Astro	1	0	0	2 5 4
EC 'LSD'	0	1	0	0 4 5
SC 'Out'	0	1	0	0 2 5
Polycrystals	0	1	0	0 1 10

C2-league	W	L	TPts	GFGA
Nuclear Engineering	1	0	0	2 6 1
EC '3E'	1	0	0	2 3 2
Conner 3	0	0	0	0 0 0
EPS Wobblers	0	1	0	0 2 3
Baker's Dozen	0	1	0	0 1 6

C3-league	W	L	TPts	GFGA
PKT	1	0	0	2 12 0
NRSA 'Croakers'	1	0	0	2 5 3
EC '2W'	1	0	0	2 4 0
BTB	1	0	0	2 3 1

Ice Crabs	W	L	TPts	GFGA
MacGregor 'E'	0	1	0	0 1 3
Three-toed Sloths	0	1	0	0 0 4
Baker Zambonies	0	1	0	0 0 12

C4-league	W	L	TPts	GFGA
PLP	3	0	0	6 15 3
SAE 'C'	2	1	0	4 8 9
Delt Tripods	1	1	0	2 3 6
DU	1	2	0	2 11 10
LCA 'C'	1	2	0	2 10 9
SC 'In'	0	2	0	0 2 17

C5-league	W	L	TPts	GFGA
DKE 'C'	3	0	0	6 15 2
TDC '1'	3	0	0	6 22 1
Tower Court West	1	1	0	2 3 8
BTP	1	2	0	2 4 14
PKS	0	2	0	0 2 10
Les Spastiques	0	3	0	0 0 11

C6-League	W	L	TPts	GFGA
ATO	3	0	0	6 25 1
Fiji 'C'	2	1	0	4 15 3
TDC '2'	2	1	0	4 12 7
ZBT	2	2	0	4 12 11
Chi Phi	0	2	0	0 1 9
TEP	0	3	0	0 0 34

C7-league	W	L	TPts	GFGA
PLP/AEPI	4	0	0	8 18 5
PKA	3	0	0	6 15 1
PDT	3	1	0	6 9 5
Theta Xi	2	2	0	4 15 6
Theta Chi	1	2	0	2 8 12
MacGregor	1	3	0	2 7 22
Tower Court East	0	2	0	0 1 6
Russian House	0	4	0	0 0 16

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