Writing Program future uncertain

By Thomas J. Splink

The year-long dispute within the Humanities Department over writing at MIT erupted again this week amid an atmosphere of firings, boycotted meetings, and charges of backstabbing.

Wednesday, five Writing Program instructors received notices that their contracts were not renewed for the next academic year.

Chairman of the Writing Program declined to comment on the dismissals but Professor Bruce Mazlish, head of the Humanities Department, assured that the notices were routine.

"Since we have an obligation to protect people, the Institute gives notices when appointments are terminated," said part-time instructors (four of the terminated personnel are part-time instructors) there is an almost automatic assumption the job size decision is the academic year," Mazlish explained. "But because the situation has become nearly linear, we will give these notices to the part-time people to be on the safe side.

Mazlish asserted that the notices did not preclude the recipients being rehired.

Friday, the Humanities Department met to discuss the recommendations of the Committee on the Pilot Writing Program, chaired by Professor Nachum Sivan, and an organization plan to administer writing instruction proposed by Dean of the School of Human-

ities Harold Hanham.

No members of the Writing Program attended Friday's meeting, citing daily meetings with colleagues from Harvard and Cornell for their absence.

Sources within the Humanities Department called the Hanham proposal "completely opposite the Sivan Committee's recommendations and evaluation."

The Evaluation Committee suggested that the Writing Program be removed from the Humanities Department and be administered by the School of Humanities, directly responsible for past conflicts with certain senior members of the Department and the Program's emphasis on Institute-side activities.

Sources within the Writing Program attacked Hanham's proposal as "locking us into a program that doesn't let us teach the way we want to, the way we have shown to be most successful in filling the widest range of students' needs and abilities."

"Hanham's proposal is designed to meet the needs of a small number of talented people who pass through MIT. We have been trying to meet the needs of the average student," Bob Hasham and Sivan denied that there was any substantive difference between their recommen-
dations.

"There is no basic conflict between Hanham's proposal and ours, if you understand the different nature of the papers," Sivan explained. "Our report was an evaluation, his is a draft of an organization. The fundamentals are quite different.

"Dean Hanham wrote a talk-

Dean of the School of Humanities. Harold Hanham, discusses the proposed organization of a permanent writing program to succeed the present experimental program which was surrounded in con-

Dormitory overcrowding attacked

By Mark James

MIT's. fundraising and spending priorities and their ef-
facts on student housing were challenged by students at an Undergraduate Association (OA) Housing Forum held last Thurs-

day.

The forum was held to discuss issues relating to four motions on student housing that have been brought before the Under-

graduate Association General As-
genial (GA) and specifically to allow student input to the class size decision to be made by the Academic Council soon.

Participating on the forum were representatives from the Ac-
demic Council, the Dean for Student

Dormitories Office, and the GA's Committee on Student Housing.

Over fifty students also were at

the meeting.

Vice President Kenneth Wadleigh '65, a member of the Academic Council, said that the class of 1981 would be "signifi-
cantly smaller than that which had been planned for all future classes," but added the Council had not received a final deci-
sion.

"Most of the GA motions call for future classes to be at 1950 students and recommends that next year's class be limited to 1000 to 1000 in order to reduce over-
crowding.

Alfled Geller '79 asked Wadleigh, "How come you are deliberately overcrowding (the dormitories)?" Wadleigh responded that he thought that MIT was doing a good job of pro-

viding housing considering its lack of a "base of capital" to fund new dormitories.

Wadleigh said that MIT does not have plans to build a new portion of undergraduate residence as an important part of the educa-
tional experience as older boys' League schools such as Harvard have had, and that this has made funding for housing more difficult.

Wadleigh said that "we are bashing our guts" to get more gift funds.

Several students questioned whether MIT was sufficiently "aggressively looking for new sources of funding."

"We have corporations who don't see the quality of student life as important. This doesn't mean that we have to accept this attitude," Wadleigh said.

Dean of the School of Science Robert Alberty, also a member of the committee (Please turn to page 2)

Heine joins ASA staff

By David B. Kortez

Efforts to improve the status of women "can not be purely aimed towards one sex," asserted Mary C. Heine '67, the recently ap-

pointed Assistant Dean for Stu-

dents with special responsi-

bilities for women students.

"The point is a general human liberation. We want input from both men and women," explained the former Wellesley student who transferred to MIT to receive a degree in biology.

Far the near future, Heine feels that her job will entail mainly "talking to people, and doing a lot of lancing. I've got to go out there and meet people, renew old acquaintances," she added.

"I have been a student, a graduate student, an instructor, and by having lived in the dorm (as a Senior Tutor at McCormick Hall while a doctorate candidate), I can be particularly sympathetic, and be able to see potential problems," Heine noted that one of the major problems involving women at MIT is "the attitude toward women in a number of classes. There are still some professors who will make sexist comments, and imply that these women will not do particular work."

Heine explained this in part, by a "sheer lack of numbers. Women tend to stand out more."

Heine added that any comments she pointed out is the "lack of focus. Everybody's so busy — and they don't have help with organizational aspects."

Asked whether MIT should make a specific effort to recruit more women, Heine replied that it already does, exploiting the catch phase of the Admissions Office, "MIT — A Special Place for Women."

Heine added that "the number of women" seems to have hit a kind of plateau, this twenty per cent women. It will take quite some time to increase the applic-

table pool, to increase the number (Please turn to page 3)
UA holds Housing Forum

(Continued from page 1)

the Academic Council, said that the $400,000 revenue gain from one hundred extra students is a significant means of lowering the MIT deficit, even after the extra costs of the students are taken into account.

The deficit is expected to be close to $1 million this fiscal year, according to aubrey, who also revealed that students wouldn't know that the savings come from the extra students. "We had to make sure the students knew it was coming," he said.

The question is raised whether the extra revenue from the extra students is sufficient to cover the deficit. The answer is that it is, but the extra revenue is not the only factor. The extra students also help to create a more diverse and stimulating environment for the students.

The Academic Council is also concerned about the impact of the extra students on the quality of education. They believe that the extra students are not a burden, but an asset to the MIT community. They are also concerned about the impact of the extra students on the MIT culture. The extra students are not all from the same culture, and this diversity is an asset to the MIT community.

The Academic Council is also concerned about the impact of the extra students on the MIT environment. They believe that the extra students are not a burden, but an asset to the MIT environment. The extra students bring new ideas and new perspectives to the MIT community.

The Academic Council is also concerned about the impact of the extra students on the MIT finance. They believe that the extra students are not a burden, but an asset to the MIT finance. The extra students help to create a more stable and secure financial environment for the MIT community.

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Heine to help women students

(Continued from page 1)

of women.”

Commenting further on the Admissions Office’s role, she said that they have been “urging women to be very positive, go back to high school, tell their math professors, guidance counselors, and students” about MIT. Heine added that “a lot of them are doing concrete things, working to increase admissions.” Other encouraging signs she cited include increasing number of women faculty members, especially those wanting to work for greater admissions, and a “lack of antagonism” towards women, enabling them to be more positive about their performance in society.

Heine allowed that further improvements would necessitate being “open for suggestions. We want to get a lot of input, to see what ideas can be gotten from a wide variety of sources.” She added that she hopes to work closely with the Association for Women Students, the Wellesley-MIT exchange, and with Mary Rowe, the special assistant to the president and chancellor for women and work.

Heine is looking forward to beginning her duties here — she expects to start during IAP. “It takes a definite recognition of the giant steps made so far,” she said. “It can seem cold and impersonal, but MIT can make exceptions to the rules, to help everyone adjust. The entire society must make changes; it’s like moving a very bulky object. It takes time.”

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The Tech inadvertently reversed the prices of the FM/AM Digital Clock Radio and the FM/AM Pocket Portable in our last issue. We regret any inconvenience this may have caused our readers or The COOP.
chains are the sins I accumulated on Earth. The chains you are forging
who they’re sleeping with, anyway! He should learn to manage his
be niore than some ‘special sauce’ I had for dinner.”


- I think I’ll repossess the corner Burger Boy.” He turned out the light

and went to sleep.

- another piece of coal on the fire, almighty liege?”

Back at home, Cabot amused himself for a
quickly,

“(Please turn to page 5)

| USC from Cambridge |

A Christmas Carol

A. Lawrence Ebenzer Cabot XXXIII ‘33 stood in his sparsely fur-
mohed State Street office. The phone rang, and a young assistant on the
have picked up the receiver and heard a voice say: “Hi, this is Paul over at MIT. Just been
goes through the hidden figures and we’re going to be $25 million
short for the Leadership Campaign. I don’t see any way we can come up
with the dough — all the alumni I’ve talked to just care about using the
squash courts and the Faculty Club. Can you help?”

“No!!!” Cabot replied gruffly, slamming down the receiver. He
turned to his shivering secretary. “I don’t want another phone call from
that toker. All he’s interested in are those blasted students of his —
Imagine $5 million for some chemical building and $3 million for a
place for upright students to eat and sleep — and who knows who they’re sleeping with, anyway! He should learn to manage his
money better.

The shivering secretary stammered, “Yes, sir. M-M-May I put
another p-p-piece of co-co-coal on the f-f-fire, almighty liege?”

- another p-p-piece of c-coal on the f-f-fire, almighty liege?”

The clock struck one. “Cabot, Cabot,” a sagacious voice drawled.

“Who are you?” Cabot demanded.

“Ha-b-b-hub” and stalked

away.

(The Tech Talk

has done some fine

research in the past, for example,

its exposure of the Ian nuclear engineering program and

at MIT spurred awareness and ac-

tion among the student body on

the issue. A potential student

wants to know what they are getting

by entering MIT — and being barred

in Cambridge, a prece-

dente would be set for restricting and

banning it elsewhere. Therefore if a researcher moved elsewhere or

she would possibly be found

with another banning. The

researcher would be worse

than before — no opportunity to

do P-3 research, plus the hassle of

moving. Already Harvard’s

Attorney General has begun an

investigation into whether P-3 is

permitted on Long Island, and

there are also indications that

Congress will be holding hearings on

the issue. In fact harmful any

guidelines will most likely be

dangerous, not whether MIT

will be losing Nobel Prize

winners.”

Retain folk dance informality

To the Editor:

I was saddened by the

anonymously submitted article

entitled “Is the Folk Dance

Club all it’s cracked up to be?”

The author appears to have

misconstrued the intentions of

the club.

The club was organized for

social purposes and the idea

is for all who enjoy dancing to

Come with me to the next meeting and you’ll see how

close you are to a true folk dancer.

I don’t think from the Harvard

point of view, there has to be an

accurate statement. I don’t know

anyone who will lie for Harvard

because of the ban.”

In any case, the basic issue at

hand is not whether MIT is

fact hazardous, not whether MIT

will be losing Nobel Prize

winners.”

The Tech

in this tradition

Bonnie Buratti, G

December 12, 1976

Mark Hoenstein G

Faulty argument

To the Editor:

I don’t think you can allow an

article like “Avant-garde

students” to pass. Mr. Kolb’s article

raised some valid points about the

art world as he and therefore

have been unable to reach any

conclusion. The problem is that

at the same time I am not moved

by any faulty argument.

Alicia Theodorou

The Tech always welcomes

Letters to the Editor. Preference

for publication is given to triple-spaced

written letters of under

400 words. They should be

sent to: Letters to the Editor, The

Tech, W2-465.
A Christmas dream

(Continued from page 4)

"That's enough," interrupted Vannevar. "My time has passed. I shall return you to your bedchamber now."

Cabot found himself back at home, trembling slightly from his journey. "Just a nightmare, I imagine," he said, shutting his eyes once more.

The clock struck two. "Cabot, Cabot," another voice called. "What is this?" Cabot cried out.

"I am Jerry, the Spirit of MIT Present. Let us see what your alma mater is like today.

Cabot discovered himself floating above a multi-colored, oddly-shaped ironwork next to the familiar ivy-covered walls of his former residence.

"My God, where am I? How can this be?" said Cabot, surveying a barren plot where once the Sloan School of Management proudly stood.

The hooded figure pointed to Cabot's right. Cabot exclaimed, "Where is Walker Memorial?"

The Spirit of MIT Future joyfully shook his head and whisked Cabot away to Memorial Drive, from where they viewed the Great Dome in shambles.

"Oh, no!" Cabot screamed, breaking down in sobs. Wordlessly, the spirit lifted him up and deposited the pitifully weeping miser into his bed.

The morning sun streamed into Cabot's bedchamber. He awoke a new man, determined to donate his life savings to the MIT Leadership Scholarship. It's the least I can do."

... To be continued.
Sivin: signs misread

(Continued from page 1)

ing paper’ to test what conditions people can agree on for a regular writing program to replace the experimental one we have now,” Sivin added. “He can’t just wave a magic wand or give a set of orders and make everything groovy.”

“Working consensuses do have to be achieved and they can only happen where everyone is willing to give something,” he concluded. “Unfortunately a lot of very positive signs are being terribly misrepresented by members of the Program.”

The Sivin report, according to Hasham, did put the Writing Program on the back but also said “now it’s time to look at a wider spectrum. They really were occupying a very narrow arena of a broad field.” Hasham stated. “There have to be many different techniques of teaching writing because students have such different skills, interests, and means of learning,” he pointed out. “I keep finding myself in an uncomfortable position because one can’t say there is only one way of doing things. Some members of the Pilot Writing Program keep getting themselves into that position.”

Hasham characterized his discussion paper as “a peace offering. I’d like to show that the Department is really a lot more friendly than the Program may have expected.”

Harvard Professor Emeritus B.F. Skinner (right) delivered a speech entitled “Why I am not a Cognitive Psychologist” to approximately 700 people in Kresge Auditorium last Sunday night. This USC-sponsored speech was moderated by Hans-Lukas Teuber (left), the head of the MIT Psychology Department and one of the world’s leading cognitive psychologists. In his speech Skinner put forth his “black box” theory of behaviorism which states that one cannot hope to analyze what goes on inside the mind — one can only see the behavioral result of a given input.
Notes

Several students are wanted to help evaluate the structure, content, etc. of the freshmen Handbook, and possibly to serve as an ongoing advisory group. If interested, please write a brief description of your interests, including information about experience which may be relevant. Send to 1-3.5, Office 7-23, no later than Monday Dec. 13. The committee will be selected by Wednesday, Dec. 15.

There are still openings available for Talbot House for the month of January. The weeks of the tenth and seventeenth of December have been scheduled. Applications will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis. Please contact the Preprofessional Advising and Education Office 10-186, U-1315.

The MIT Chamber Players will give a midnight concert on Friday, Dec. 17, in Lobby 7. The Players will perform Beethoven's Brandenburg Concerto No. 3 in F, Mozart's Serenade No. 11 in E flat, X-375, Four for Two, Huts and Harp from L'Enfance du Christ, by Berlioz, and Bach's Cantata 147, Liebster Jesu, mein Verlangen.

The MIT UHF Repeater Association, together with the TIPSNET, will hold its December meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 14, at 4:30 in Landon Commons Room 413. The meeting is open to the public. Anyone interested in Amateur Radio is invited to attend.

Charles E. Miller will speak on High Speed Videography at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 14 in Room 4-402.

A series of life-saving courses keyed to end-of-the-season heart attacks is being offered by the Greater Boston Chapter, American Red Cross. Instruction by the Red Cross includes first aid, CPR, and actual operation of such technics on manikins especially designed for the course. The course runs for eight hours in two hourly classes and can be given to a single group, block of instruction, or in four week-long periods. Interested students are urged to call the Red Cross at 262-7755 or 262-2624 for a schedule.

6121 Boneelectronics Project Laboratory will be offered Spring Term. This course provides an interesting and enjoyable introduction to medical instrumentation to students with any level of electronics expertise. Students from other departments with an interest in medical engineering are encouraged to attend. Please call David Abram's at 437-5938 for more information.


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W swimmers split meets

By Wendy Irving

The women's varsity swim team opened its 76-77 season last weekend with victories at Jackson and Wheaton.

Tuesday night, the Engineers met a decidedly stronger Jackson team. Despite the better caliber of this year's swimmers, the MIT women found themselves behind during the entire race. Jackson was the opening relay event and captured first place in eleven of the fifteen events. The final score was MIT 49, Jackson 81.

National tourney proves unlucky for volleyball

By Glenn Brownstein

The Eastern champion MIT women's volleyball team discovered just how good the rest of the country's top teams were this past weekend, as the squad completed its stellar 1976 season on a down note by losing all three matches at the Nationals at Pepperdine College in Malibu, California.

Perhaps the key to MIT's throwing reserves in a pre-novice single serve to top sister Sheila Luster '78, who jammed her arm into Jackson before the first tournament match Wednesday night.

While Luster was still able to play an adequate frontcourt game, the team missed her ability to boom spikes through and over opponents' blocks until the team's final match. MIT's fortunes might still have been better, though, had not Lewis & Clark College of Idaho dashed their hopes of advancing to the double-elimination round of the tourney with a 19-17, 14-16, 15-12 win over the Engineers.

MIT trailed in the first game and the teams battled through more than ten minutes of overtime before the Idaho school gained the victory.

Trailing 8-12 in the second game, MIT rallied to win 16-14, but Lewis & Clark held off yet another come-from-behind effort by MIT to clinch the match in the final contest.

Discounted by the close loss, MIT couldn't make up against awesome Texas Lutheran College, 1975 national champions and eventual winners of this year's tournament (in a three-game thriller against UCal-Riverside). TLC, paced by the Junior Olympics MVP Laurae Falch, simply outclassed the Engineers 15-3, 15-7.

In the final pool match Thursday afternoon, Kearney State of Nebraska overcame a strong MIT start to top the Engineers 15-12, 15-12, 15-12.

Top player for MIT, despite two heavily taped ankles, was senior Lisa Albright '78, who was also used as a blocker against Texas Lutheran's super spike Falch.

The team's three losses sets their final record at 27-4, an incredible achievement.

Pistol takes 3rd straight

By Dave Schaller

The MIT varsity pistol team stretched its winning streak to three last Saturday in a match against Worcester Polytechnic.

Leading the 3,133 to 2,951 victory for MIT was senior Phil Brucat with his best score of the year. A double alpha in the rapid fire stage of the Standard Pistol course prevented him from breaking 900, so he wound up with a 792. Junior Philip Morris earned second place overall with his score of 790. David Schaller '78 took third with 783, and Denny Mc- Mullen '78 fired a score of 766 to give MIT a sweep of the top four individual positions in the team's last match of the year.

The varsity Pistol team now has a free schedule until February 12, allowing them to practice for matches against the Army, Navy, and Air Force Academy which will be held during a three-week period. The MIT shooters have a good chance of competing in the top three matches against the midshipmen appear to be split.

The varsity team has a perfect 3-0 record in college matches and a 6-1 record in the Greater Boston Pistol League. The JV team has a 6-2 record in the GBPL.

IM Hockey standings and results

IM Hockey season is now well underway with 61 teams competing in nine leagues. Here, in a C-league contest, TEP shoots against FJU.

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Point winners for MIT were: Sheila Koncke '80, winning the 100 IM and 100 breaststroke; Eunice Kuntz '80 in the 200 freestyle and 50 backstroke; Barb Thompson '78 in the 100 IM, 100 freestyle and 50 freestyle; Tina Kangas '78 winning the 50 breaststroke; Carol Brown '79 winning the 50 freestyle and placing in the 100 freestyle; Peggy Page '78 in the 50 fly, 100 fly and 100 freestyle; Karen Fabricius '80 in the 50 fly and 100 fly; Lori Laredo '79 diving; Barb Belt '77 in the 100 backstroke; Beth Marcus '79 in the 100 breaststroke.

Thursday night, however, was a different story. Having beaten Wheaton last year, the MIT women determined to do so again.

MIT jumped to an early lead winning the first two events, but found it had to battle hard all evening. By the diving event, the half-way point, the score was MIT 51, Wheaton 30.

The score see-sawed back and forth, neither team having an edge until MIT pulled away by taking first and second in two consecutive events. Page and Irving took first and second in the 500 freestyle. Knocke and Marcus took the 100 yard breaststroke, one, two. Finishing up the meet, the Engineers blasted their way to win in the 200 yard freestyle relay for a final score of MIT 72, Wheaton 51.