

## in the news

### INSIDE

*Here and Now* looks at a possible reincarnation of the draft, among some of the other unpleasant aspects of President Carter's programs dealing with colleges and students. *Perspectives* discusses the Writing Program as part of a bigger problem — the future of Humanities at MIT.

p4

Rebuilding after the graduation of several key players, the Beaver baseball team heads for Florida during Spring break to open its season. In Florida, several players will try out new positions as the team prepares for Greater Boston League competition in April and May.

p8

### UPDATE

John Blodgett, arrested March 4 for the murder of John A. Asinari, was held without bail Wednesday after pleading innocent to a series of indictments returned against him by the Suffolk County grand jury for kidnapping, robbery, and murder.

### CAMPUS

Walter E. Morrow Jr. '49, associate director of Lincoln Laboratory, has been named director of the laboratory by Chancellor Paul Gray '54. Morrow is an expert on space communications and received both his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in electrical engineering from MIT. He succeeds Gerald P. Dinneen who resigned to take a position as President Carter's assistant secretary of defense.

### LOCAL

State Senators Joseph J. C. Dicarlo and Ronald C. Mackenzie have been sentenced to one-year prison terms and \$5000 dollar fines for eight counts of political corruption. US District Judge Walter Jay Skinner released the defendants without bail pending their appeals.

### NATION

President Carter announced this week that the United States will begin talks with representatives of Vietnam in Paris on establishing complete diplomatic relations without delay and without preconditions. The offer was brought back by the five-member commission Carter sent to Vietnam and Laos earlier this month to elicit information about American MIA's.

## UAP, UAVP will still run as a ticket

By David B. Koretz

The General Assembly of the Undergraduate Association voted Tuesday night to continue the current practice of having UA presidential and vice-presidential candidates run together as a slate.

A set of proposed bylaws for the Secretariat presented to the representatives of the GA included a provision for splitting the ticket, while still enabling candidates to run in tandem if they so wished.

The GA was swayed by UAP candidates Marty Herman '79 and Peter Burke '80, and by former UAP Steven Wallman '75, all of whom spoke against the proposal. Wallman maintained that the measure would "kill" any progress towards effective student government which the UAP and UAVP have achieved in recent years.

After the ticket-splitting provision was dropped, the bylaws were approved unanimously. The bylaws replace the previous set, which were lost before the GA was reincarnated last year.



Marty Herman '79 (left) and Peter Burke '80 (right), UAP candidates, discuss possible splitting of UAP-UAVP tickets. UAP Phil Moore '77 chaired the meeting Tuesday night.

## Forum presents grading views

By Mark James

Students reacted to recent proposals on grade deflation by questioning the intentions of the MIT grading system at an open grading forum held Wednesday.

"We don't want to be differentiated and packaged," Ron Newman '79 said, responding to statements by members of the faculty Ad Hoc Committee on Grading.

The faculty members explained that they felt that the large numbers of A's being given out in recent years limit the ability of professors to differentiate different levels of performance and make it difficult for graduate schools and potential employers to evaluate students' abilities.

The Committee has proposed several alternatives for lowering grades. Most students at the forum did not offer opinions on these options, but instead argued that grades should not be lowered in any manner.

Howard Schrobe G and Committee member Associate Professor of Physics Thomas Greytak '62 debated whether grades should be used to separate stu-

dents into several different classes by performance.

Shrobe proposed a system in which only three grades are given out — failure, competent, and excellent.

He argued that one of the main reasons for grade inflation was the realization by professors that the grading system was not a fair representation of achievement.

Professor of Electrical Engineering James Melcher maintained that a grading system which does not make distinctions in grades places too much emphasis on professors' recommendations — on "who you know."

Several students complained that a lowering of grades would make some students work harder than they should and neglect extracurricular activities. Greytak replied that getting students to work harder, which was not the Committee's intention, would not necessarily be a result of deflation.

Greytak said that the proposed changes in grading would result in "truth in packaging" — giving a better idea of students' performance on their transcripts.



Professor of Management Zenon S. Zannetos explains recent grading trends at UA forum held Wednesday.

The "packaging" terminology, as well as Committee Chairman Professor of Management Zenon S. Zannetos' reference at the faculty meeting a week ago to students as "products and services" led to Newman's comment and other student complaints.

Forum participants agreed that written evaluations would be the most desirable form of grading, but members of the Grading Committee maintained that letter grades are the only practical method, since lengthy written evaluations would never be read by most people outside MIT.

About 25 students were present at the forum, which was sponsored by the Undergraduate Association. Zannetos said that the Committee is interested in comments on its proposals.

Guidelines for an Elections Committee are the main feature of the new rules.

Other highlights of the meeting, which drew some 50 students, included the report of UAVP Steve Spiro '77 on the Kaleidoscope weekend concert. Spiro announced that Aztec Two-Step will be the featured group for the April 29 concert, with Anna May Wolf the projected warmup. Tickets will be \$4.50 and \$3.50.

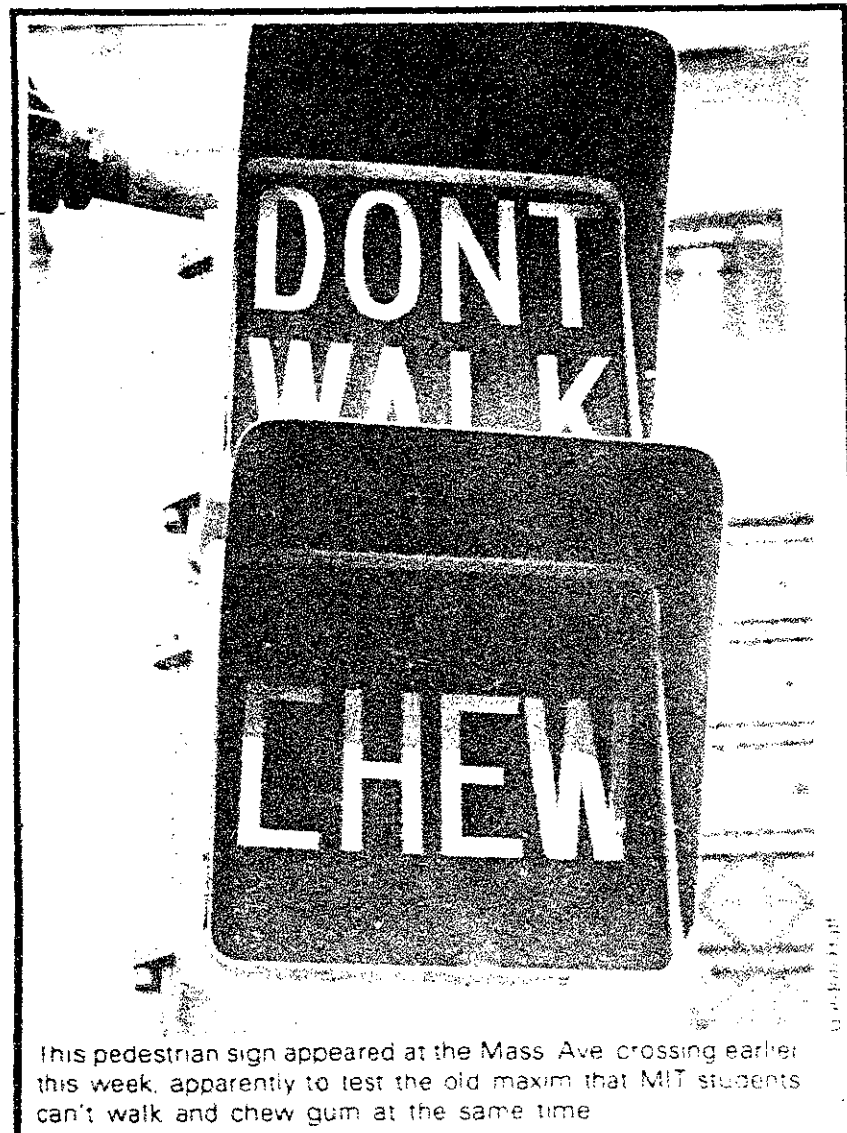
An amendment to the Constitution that would have made The Inter-Fraternity Council and the Dormitory Council independent of the UA in dealing with internal affairs was defeated handily. A two-thirds majority of the delegates was necessary for passage, but not even a simple majority was attained.

The opponents of the bill claimed that the independence of the living groups' governing bodies might lead to the same status for the Association of Student Activities. Apparently this fear was sufficient to defeat the amendment.

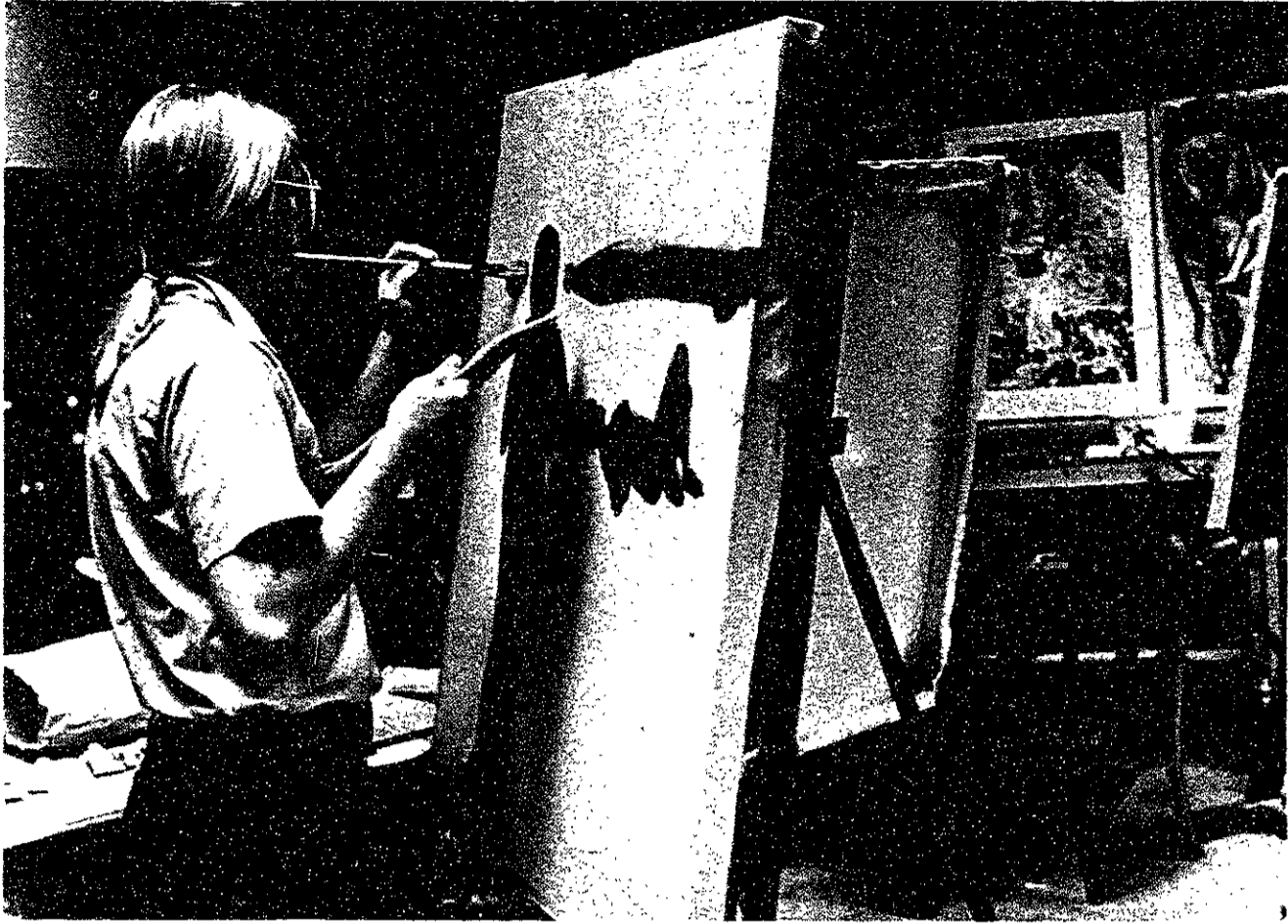
A request by the Committee on Visual Arts for \$650 to restore the Stratton Collection of prints was rejected. The prints are loaned to students for a nominal fee for the academic year, but are now in shabby condition, according to the CVA representative. The \$650 was intended to match a possible \$650 from the Graduate Student Council.

The GA agreed to take responsibility for a bus shuttle service for dormitory residents to and from Stop and Shop and Haymarket. A feasibility study is being conducted by several students in 1.102, Transportation Systems Laboratory Projects. Expected round-trip cost of the shuttle would be no more than \$5.00.

Before adjournment, a resolution was adopted, unanimously, condemning proposed grade deflation. A recent faculty committee report has recommended that average grade points be lowered.



This pedestrian sign appeared at the Mass Ave crossing earlier this week, apparently to test the old maxim that MIT students can't walk and chew gum at the same time.



Sheidon Lowenthal



Dave Green

## A look at student activities

Over the years many students have noted that a degree should be offered for "Course 26" — extracurricular activities at MIT.

The choices vary widely, from model railroading to skydiving, including the quieter crafts such as pottery-making. Thousands of students are involved each year in all of the student activities centered around the fourth floor of the student center, throughout Walker Memorial, and scattered around Building 20.

Whether getting together for a Saturday afternoon game of chess or for an Institute-wide tournament, what matters is that it is fun.

Some students apply their technical knowledge and skills to a hobby that occupies their free time.

Others spend their spare time working with one of the service groups — Alpha Phi Omega and the Technology Community Association. The TCA silkscreens are a traditional part of every Kaleidoscope weekend (just a little over a month away).

Whatever the activity, nearly every student involved with one will come to the same realization sometime during the academic year: MIT activities take up all of your spare time — and a little bit more.



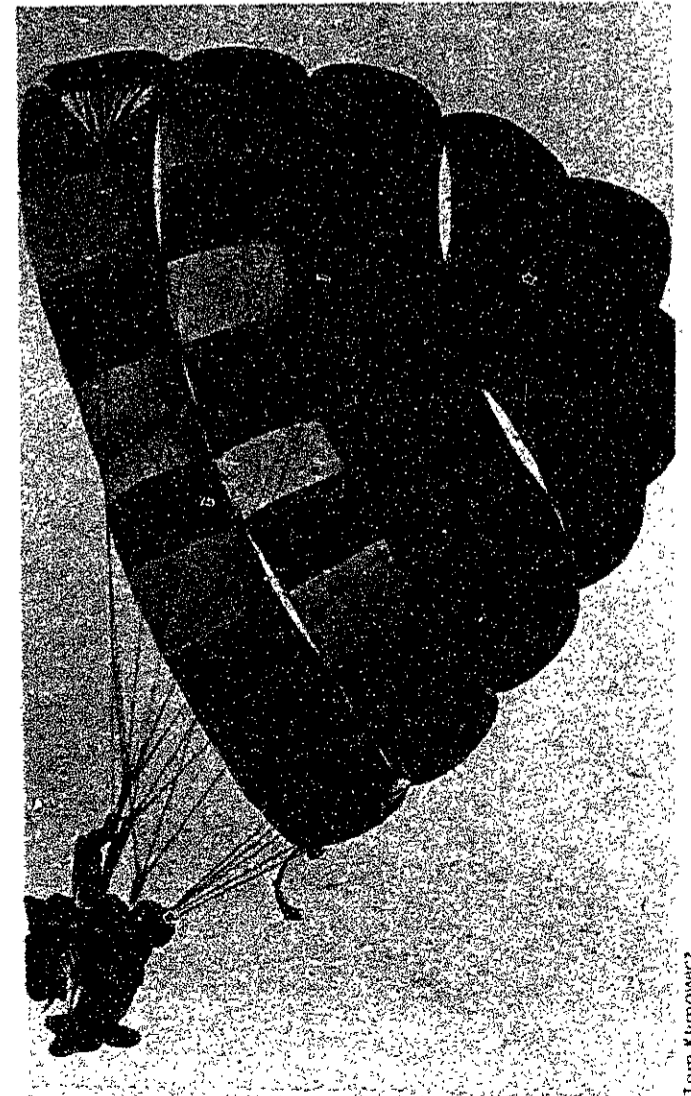
Dave Green



Mark James



Mark James



Tom Kinnowicz

Viewing the cable

TV right for classes?

By Kent Pitman

Editor's note: This is the third installment in a series examining the MIT cable system.

Videotaping of lectures for presentation on the MIT cable is a frequently mentioned alternative to the overcrowding of lecture halls. How feasible is such a suggestion?

Professor of Materials Science Roy Kaplow, chairman of the Video Management Group, explained that before this could be considered, provisions would have to be made so that all students would have accessibility to cable monitors, and the costs would have to be justified by the educational benefits expected.

One of the classes specifically mentioned in the early reports to the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, the organization which funded the installation of the cable, was 3.091, Introduction to Solid State Chemistry. The plan was to use this class as a proving ground for the cable's video instruction capabilities.

"It was a custom in the past, and may be in the future... to run review sessions [over the cable] on Fridays," Professor of Materials Science Robert Rose explained. Because of the low second-term enrollment common to that class and other factors, however, the results were not as good as they could have been. The students seemed to like the "talk-master" style of reviews, Rose noted.

Professor of Materials Science August Witt, who taught the course last fall, said that due to other time considerations, it was impossible to implement such a program during the '76-'77 school year, but that it "should seriously be considered for the fall enrollment."

Professor Rose attributed the problems that arose in teaching the cable review sessions to a lack of facilities for interactive viewing. "If you think about the

places that have cable TV outlets," Rose said, "there are few of them within comfortable reach of a telephone."

Would it be more efficient to completely replace large lectures with taped ones aired regularly over the cable?

Assistant Professor of Physics George Brandenburg, current lecturer for 8.02, believes that taped lectures are not the answer. Brandenburg said that he thinks the students would lose a great deal because of the impersonalized approach.

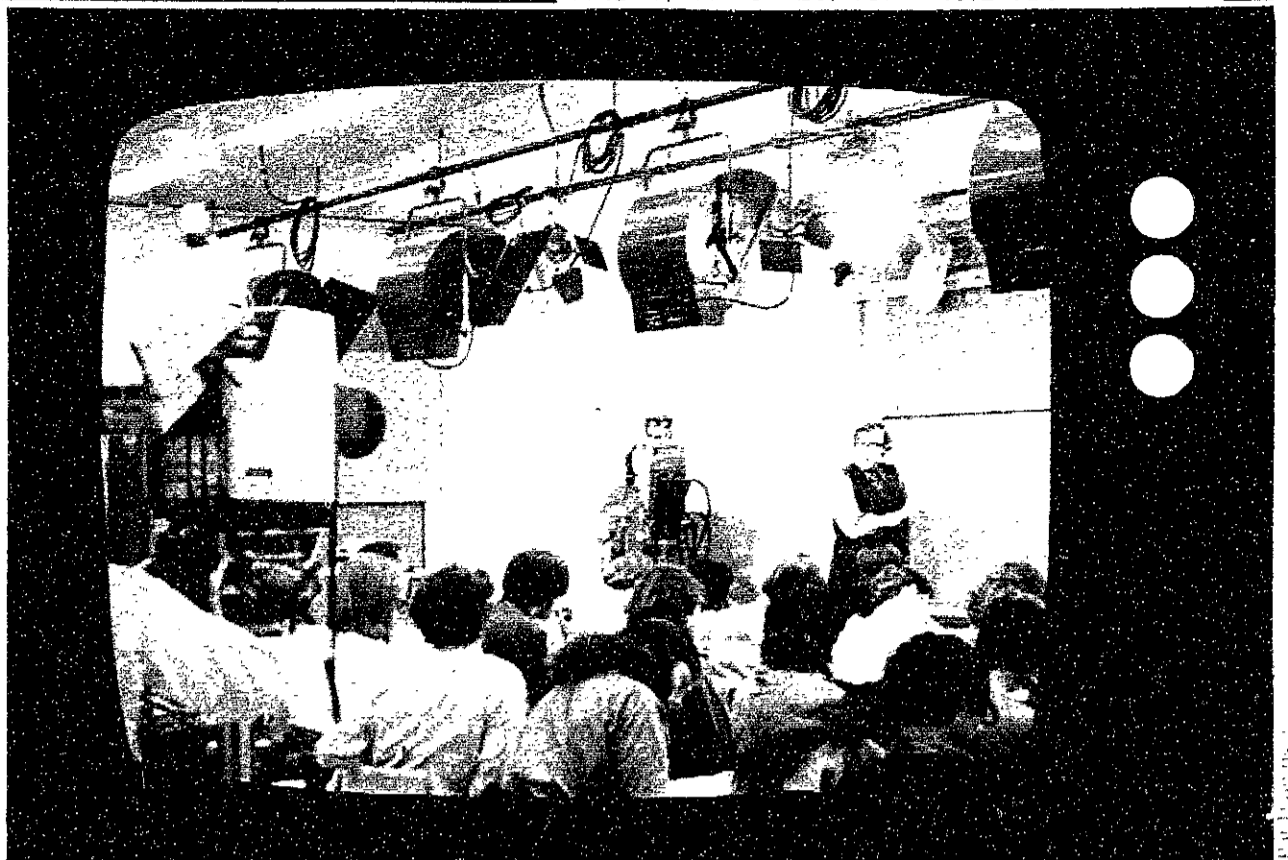
He indicated his concern that students would no longer feel a need to attend lectures, noting that he prefers to lecture to a live audience.

Professor Rose voiced similar objections to taped lectures. "That's for the birds. I don't believe in that because there's a 'human electricity' that you generate."

Rose emphasized the need of an instructor to be able to measure the response of his students. If some are not catching on as fast because of the weather or because it's the Monday after Thanksgiving, the instructor must be able to recognize this and compensate by adjusting to the group's needs. "At MIT I've been teaching for 16 years," said Rose, "and I know what I'm talking about."

Witt, on the other hand, argues that although different problems are involved in teaching via the cable, it could still be done. "If the student wants to learn the subject matter, he will — in class or on the screen." In some the student would come out ahead, Witt added, because "you force the faculty to do more work."

"The purpose of the whole thing is to improve the interaction between student and teacher," Kaplow emphasized. If part of the teaching can be accomplished by machine-aided techniques, said Kaplow, it would allow time for a more personalized teacher-student relationship.



Police Blotter

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

Car Recovered

An officer patrolling Amherst Alley early Wednesday evening spotted from a distance two men park a green Dodge at the curb, switch over to a waiting black Chevrolet, and rapidly drive off. A close check of the Dodge revealed discrepancies between the Vehicle Identification Numbers on the dash, engine block, and registration papers. The vehicle, whose ignition had been "popped," was towed for safekeeping. It is believed to have been used in a number of recent armed robberies in the metropolitan area.

East Garage Holdup

A woman was robbed early last Friday evening on the first level of the East Garage by a man who approached her and told her "this is a robbery." The victim handed over her change purse containing around \$5 to the suspect, who then fled the area. The suspect is described as follows: Black Male, 18-20 years old, 5'5", chubby face, wearing a beige cap and a grey or black trench coat.

Chevrolet Stolen

A 1970 Chevrolet Impala was reported stolen from its parking place on Audrey Street sometime between 7pm Friday and 10am Saturday.

Olds Stolen

A 1970 Oldsmobile was reported stolen from the Tang Hall parking lot sometime between Monday and Tuesday evenings.

Larceny at DuPont

A yellow and purple athletic jacket valued at around \$50 was reported stolen from its unsecured place at the DuPont athletic complex last Thursday afternoon. A book of Commons Meal Coupons was in one pocket. The coupons were later recovered outside, but the jacket has disappeared.

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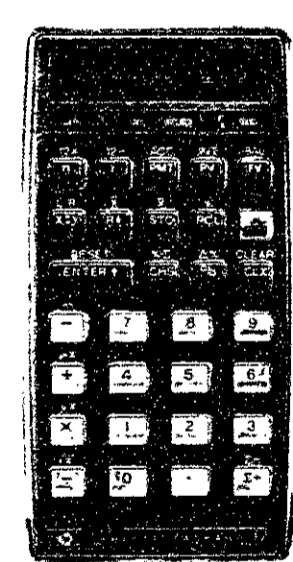
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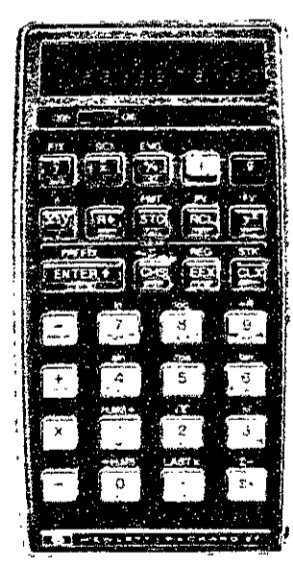
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## Students may suffer from Carter actions

By William Lasser

It may be just a case of paranoia, but college students are beginning to feel harassed by the new Carter administration. First, the President slashed National Direct Student Loans (NDSL) from his fiscal year 1978 budget; then, to make matters worse, he suggested that students not be given draft deferrals if the selective service system were revived.

The Congress will apparently ignore Carter's advice and appropriate at least some money for student loans. Besides, Carter is only the latest in a series of Presidents who have attempted to kill the NDSL program — President Ford's budget included no money for loans either. The draft problem might be more serious, however, and taken together, these two presidential actions demonstrate a disturbing trend.

The draft plan which has been tossed around by some prominent government officials involves mandatory service for all young men (some plans include women as well) in either the armed services or in some other form of public service. The latter might include such organizations as conservation corps and groups to clean up the cities.

The merits of the plan, its supporters insist, are obvious. The volunteer army, they claim, is not working — it costs too much, the average intelligence of its recruits is too low, and it includes a disproportionate number of blacks. It is argued that mandatory service would cure the army of its ills, lower unemployment in the lower age brackets, reduce crime in the streets and provide thousands of energetic young people who could work for the good of the nation.

Some of these arguments may have merit; however, none of them apply to

college students. As a group, students are not in the permanent job market, they are not the perpetrators of violent crimes, they would not substantially help out the army, and their time is better spent in college than out performing tasks which require little or no education.

This is not an elitist approach. The fears of many of the draft's proponents stem from the days of the Vietnam War, when thousands decided to attend college as a means of escaping military duty. If the program were reinstated in its proposed form, nothing of the sort would happen: with the alternative of civilian service, conscientious objectors and others would see no need to automatically go to college.

The effect of a mandatory service requirement for college students would be disastrous. With the demand for specialization and post-graduate education continually increasing, the addition of even a year or two of civilian or military service would force doctoral candidates into their late twenties before they would be able to graduate and join the labor force. Furthermore, the break in education — either after high school or after four undergraduate years — would be detrimental in itself. For some, a year off might be helpful, but for most it would be a distracting burden.

Worst of all, applying the program to college students would be a terrible waste of the nation's intellectual potential. After serving the country, those who would otherwise have gone to college might find themselves too old to go to school. Men and women who could be acquiring the knowledge necessary to eventually lead the nation and provide solutions to difficult problems would be wasting their time in a national service program.

The reincarnation of the draft is at least a few years away. By then, perhaps the President's almost casual remark will have been forgotten and reason will prevail. But Carter's perceived tendency to ignore the rights and needs of the academic community is both offensive and, for Carter, politically disadvantageous.

Since the war ended, America's college students have been a quiet group. In the last election, students were for the most part politically inactive. Yet, as seen by the storm of antiwar protests in the late 1960's students are easily aroused when their own interests are at stake, and their protests are highly effective and highly visible.

There are two reasons for Jimmy Carter to retract his statement that college students should not be exempted from a national service program. The first is based on reason — it is simply a bad idea. The second is based on politics — if the move were made at any time before the 1980 election, students could hurt the incumbent's chances at the polls. Judging from Carter's first few months in office, and from his previous two-year campaign, he would seem to be much more likely to respond to the second consideration.



## Writing part of bigger problem

By David B. Koretz

This is the second segment of a two-part *Perspectives*. Part I dealt with the history of the Writing Program and of the present crisis.

The problem of Humanities at MIT and at technical institutions in general is an old one, but it has been brought to light again by the imminent demise of the Pilot Writing Program.

For the second time in two years, the administration will have abolished a program that had been hard-fought for and generally acknowledged to be effective, but one that went against the traditional doctrines of MIT education. The first was the Department of Philosophy, merged with the Department of Foreign Languages and Linguistics to form the new

Department of Philosophy and Linguistics.

the end of the independence he had once so avidly sought. Now, the early proponents of the Writing Program have similarly given up. Where does that leave the future of humanities at MIT?

Here at the Institute, as at every technical institution, the question of properly educating students in the humanities is a prevalent one. Under the guidelines of the curriculum established in 1974, a student can easily graduate with almost no background in the humanities.

Clearly this situation is undesirable, but so was the curriculum required before the changes in 1974. The older requirements restricted undergraduates in their alternatives, but insured that history and literature were included in each student's program.

The administration worsens the situation with its recent cuts. The courses offered in the Writing Program were popular, serving several hundred students each term. More and more students turn to social sciences such as economics to fulfill the humanities requirements. That is the practical alternative for students who do not want simply to substitute impersonal lectures on the arts for impersonal lectures on science and engineering.

Student-centered teaching, as evidenced by the turnout for writing classes, is the best way to interest students in humanities. Until the administration and the School of Humanities and Social Science come to this conclusion, humanities will continue to take a very distant back seat to technology here.

## perspectives

The current plan of the Department of Humanities involves a four-fold program of writing courses without the emphasis on student-centered teaching that was the primary concern of the three-year-old Pilot Program.

Apparently as a result of pressure from faculty within the department and from certain members of the administration, Harold Hanham and Donald Blackmer, Dean and Associate Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, respectively, as well as Bruce Mazlish, head of the Department of Humanities, have withdrawn the support which they gave the program in its early years.

Without the support and budget of the department, the Writing Program is near its end. With proponents of the student-centered teaching methods — Professors Sanford Kaye and Joseph Brown — out of the way after this year, the Institute will freely be able to implement a curriculum opposite in nature to that lauded by students and educators throughout the country.

Department of Philosophy and Linguistics.

Six years ago, Professor Richard Cartwright, head of the Philosophy section in the Department of Humanities, won faculty approval for an undergraduate degree in philosophy and Corporation approval for the formation of a new Department of Philosophy.

Opponents of the move feared that the new department would attract persons interested in philosophy professionally, rather than educators aiming to impart philosophy as a facet of the humanities.

Cartwright denied charges that the segregation of the section into a department would stifle communication between disciplines. Proponents also maintained that departmental status would provide faculty members with higher esteem among professional colleagues.

In January 1976 *The Tech* reported that the merger with the Linguistics department was in the planning stages. Cartwright publicly offered no resistance to

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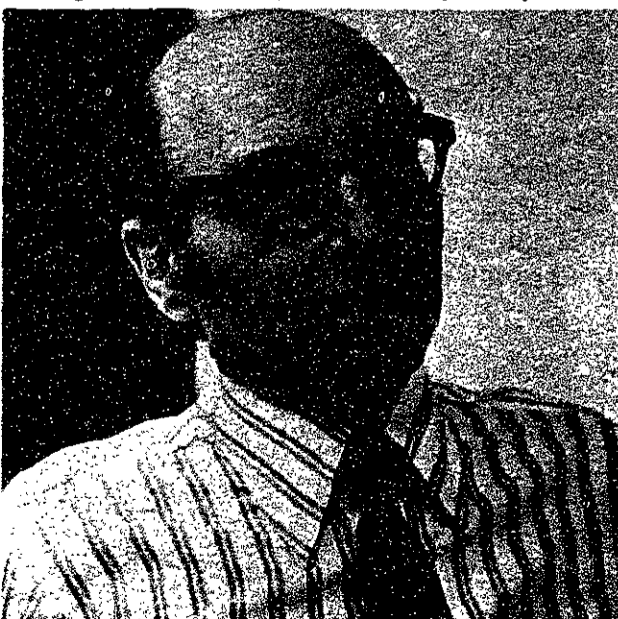
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Volume 97, Number 14  
Friday, March 25, 1977

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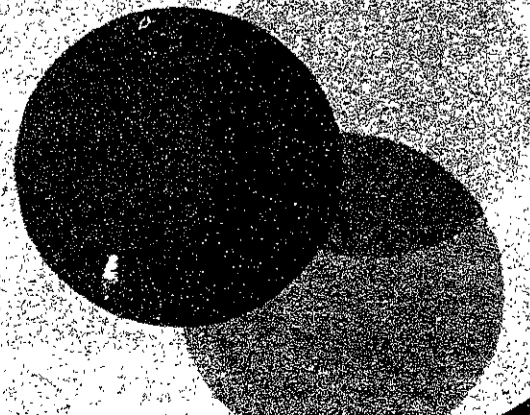
Third Class postage paid at Boston, MA. *The Tech* is published twice a week during the academic year (except during MIT vacations) and once during the last week of July. Please send all correspondence to: P.O. Box 29, MIT Branch, Cambridge, MA 02139. Offices at Room W20-483, 84 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA. Telephone: (617) 253-1541. Advertising and subscription rates available on request.



Tom Klimowicz

Free Writing!  
A Group Approach

J. BROOKS et al.



Humanities Department head Bruce Mazlish and the Writing Program's book: the controversy rages on.

# opinion cont.

## feedback

### Preserve MIT writing

To the Editor:

I would like to encourage all people interested in the preservation of the writing program, and especially student-centered teaching at MIT, to change the direction of their efforts from simply attacking the administration, to proposing and pursuing a productive course of action. The only way anything will be accomplished is if we work together for our common goals.

Two issues have been discussed: is the administration being honest (and will we stand for it if it isn't), and will there continue to be student-centered writing courses at MIT? These two questions are related but separate, so we should not let the success or failure of one cause the failure of the other.

Discussion at the two student meetings to "save the Writing Program" showed that the top priority of those present was to maintain and foster student centered teaching. This could either be done outside or within the Writing Program structure proposed by Dean [Harold J.] Hanham.

Doing it outside will require a source of funding from somewhere, and that will require finding one or more people willing to and in a position to do some careful negotiating.

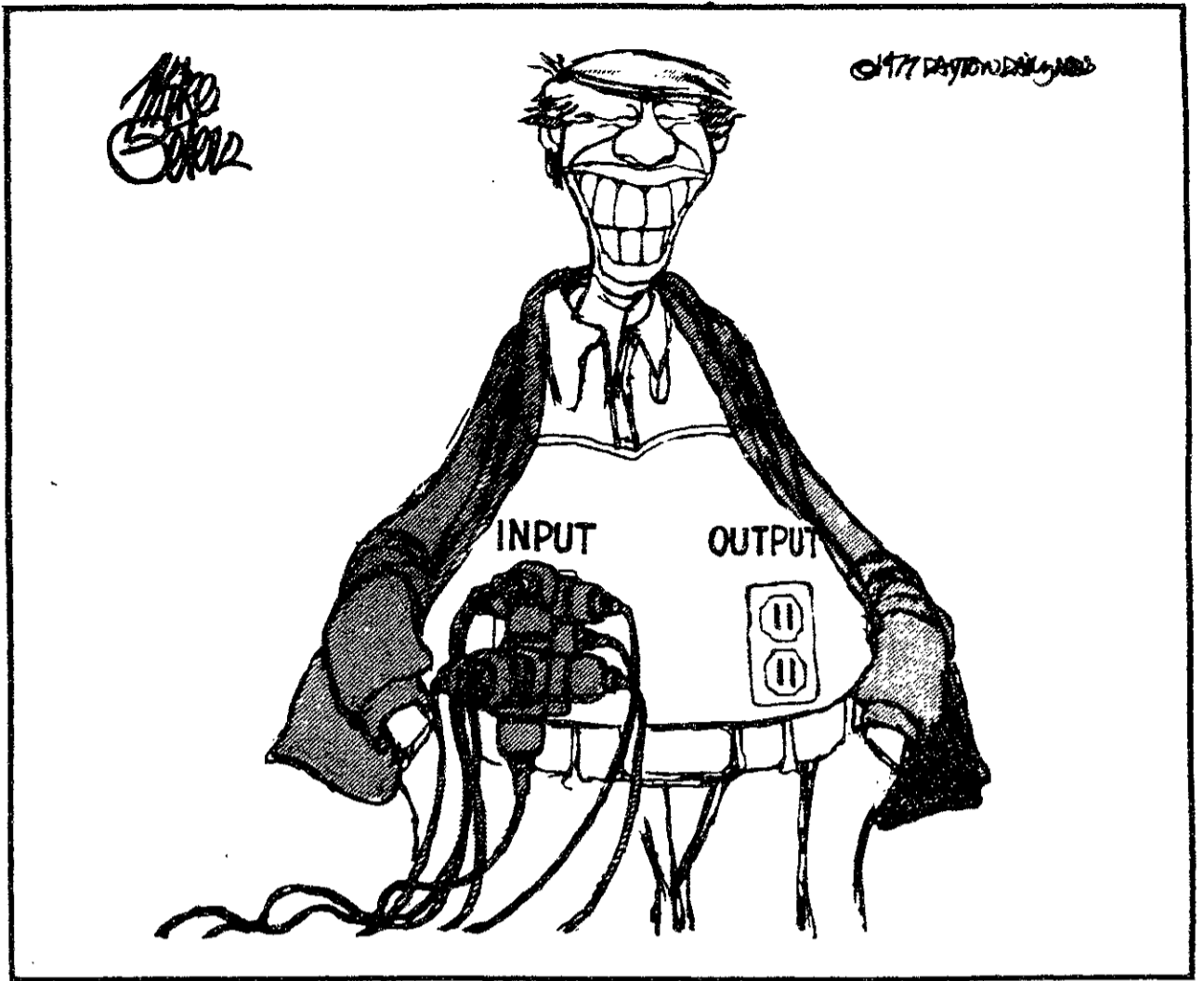
Doing it within the structure means healing the rift that has formed within the writing program and encouraging those who have appointments for next

year (which includes all the senior staff and those junior staff who might receive appointments at the usual time in June) to remain and continue working to improve what is left of the program. This will require establishing a working relationship with the new director and steering committee if and when they are appointed.

A third possibility, that of changing the proposed structure, requires that an alternative be introduced, and a dialog with the administration be established.

In conclusion, it's time for us to stop licking our wounds and start preparing for the future. If no proposals for action are forthcoming, let's not endanger with ricocheting accusations what is left of the writing program by alienating those who give it necessary support. If the issues of good faith on both sides are to be heard, let the accused respond, in an open forum, or at least on the news pages of our newspapers.

Peter Fiekowsky '77



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# La Boheme dramatic

La Boheme, an opera in four acts by Giacomo Puccini, presented by the Boston Opera Company Friday, March 25 at 8pm and Sunday, March 27 at 3pm at the Orpheum Theatre.

By William Lasser

La Boheme is perhaps the perfect opera. Giacomo Puccini's music places him among the great Romantic composers, but it is his theatrical sense, his flair for the dramatic, which makes this tragic love story the premiere example of the power of opera.

The Boston Opera Company has produced a Boheme which stresses above all the opera as superb musical theatre. Unlike the recent television broadcast from the Metropolitan Opera Company in New York, this production does not rest on the laurels of brilliant singing. Lacking the likes of Luciano Pavarotti and Renata Scotto, Artistic Director Sarah Caldwell has emphasized the libretto over the musical score, acting over singing. Keeping with this approach, the opera is performed in English.

La Boheme is the story of the tragic love of Rudolfo (Jack Trussel) and Mimi (Magdalena Falewicz). He is a poor Parisian poet, she an equally impoverished seamstress. They meet on Christmas Eve when, looking for a light for her candle, she knocks at the door of Rudolfo's garret where he lives with his friends Marcello (Ronald Holgate), a painter; Colline (John Davies), a philosopher; and Schaunard (Ralph Griffin), a musician.

Mimi is ill; throughout the long winter she becomes weaker and weaker, until Rudolfo, consumed by guilt because he can not provide warmth and food for her, leaves in despair. Mimi goes to a tavern near the gate of Paris to look for him, and the two agree to stay together until spring, when they will end the affair.

Meanwhile, Musetta (Marianna Christos) has renewed her affair with Marcello; by the last act, however, they have once again broken up. In the end, Musetta brings Mimi back to the garret. Mimi is close to death, and wants to be near Rudolfo. Surrounded by her friends, she dies quietly, leaving her lover in tears and Musetta and Marcello in each others' arms.

Trussel and Falewicz present fine performances as the ill-fated lovers. Trussel's voice is clear, lacking the Italian tone one is used to hearing in the part, but full of emotion and energy. Falewicz, especially in the famous "Mi chiamano Mimi," is at times weak; her voice sounds strained in the high passages. However, her characterization, facial expressions and acting ability gave the role dramatic force.

Christo's Musetta was outstanding. Her voice was the best in the opera — her rendition of "Musetta's Waltz" in Act Two was the highlight of the performance. The winner of second place in the Metropolitan Opera National Auditions, her tone is clear and vivacious, perfectly suited to her role.

Holgate, who starred in the Broadway production of 1776, has a powerful voice and is a fine actor. He won first place in the Met Auditions, and his training in the musical theatre fit in perfectly with the tone of the overall production.

The first act arias of Rudolfo and Mimi, and their tender duets in the final act, have to suffer in comparison with the Metropolitan production. But the group numbers, notably among the Bohemian artists, were far more lively and interesting than the Met's. The orchestra was strong but controlled throughout, the sets attractive although perhaps a bit confining.

Caldwell has produced a thoroughly enjoyable Boheme. The Company has captured the essence of the opera, and in it the essence of Puccini.



Rodolfo (Jack Trussel) comforts Mimi (Magdalena Falewicz) on her deathbed in a scene from the Opera Company of Boston's production of Puccini's La Boheme.

David F. Elliot

## events

Guitarist Ron Hudson will give a concert in the upper cafeteria at Bentley College on Saturday evening, March 26. The performance will begin at 8pm. Tickets will be available at the door for \$1.00 (with a student ID), and for \$2.00 for the general public.

"Rich and Famous," a new comedy by John Guare, will open a four week engagement at the Wilbur Theatre on Monday, March 28 at 8pm, with three special performances scheduled for Friday, March 25 at 8pm and Saturday, March 26 at 2 and 8pm. Mail orders may be sent to the Wilbur Theatre, 252 Tremont St., Boston. For group sales and theatre parties, call 423-4008.

Ali Akbar Khan, India's great sarod player

will be giving his fifth annual Boston concert on Sunday, April 3 at 8:30pm at Jordan Hall, new England Conservatory. Tickets are available at the Jordan Hall box office, Strawberries music stores and at the door. For further information, call 491-6543.

The Boston Shakespeare Company presents *The Merchant of Venice*, opening March 31. It will play in repertory with the Company's current production, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Performances of *The Merchant of Venice* will be every Thursday and Saturday evening at 8pm, with *A Midsummer Night's Dream* performing Fridays at 8pm. The Boston Shakespeare Company Theatre is located on the corner of Berkeley and Marlborough Streets in Back Bay. The box office telephone 267-5600.

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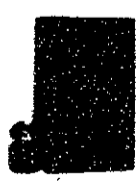
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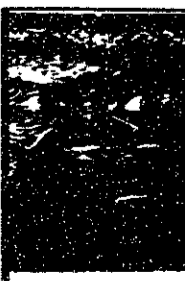
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# sports cont.

## MIT looks back on a season past

By Gary S. Engelson

So you think that spring is here and winter has gone. One look outside will dispel that notion. The spring sports season has not quite yet arrived either.

Baseball, tennis, crew and several other warm-weather sports begin their spring training or competition seasons now or over spring break. The baseball team is going to Florida, for the spring break, to train as the

professionals train. The crew teams are out on the Charles nearly every morning now, and as the weather gets better, the number of shells out on the river will increase. But now, in between regular seasons, is a good time to look back at the season just past.

Hockey is a real winter sport, played here outdoors in Briggs Arena where the cold biting winds of winter can really get to the

players. Despite their discomfort the icemen turned in an amazing record of 11-7-1. Don't berate that season total; the club was working against the stigma of not having had a winning season in over a decade.

Meanwhile, in a sport normally thought of as a summer pastime, the men's swim team sent five people to the Nationals at Oberlin College of Ohio. Sending them there was an accomplishment in itself, but the swimmers didn't stop there.

No, they returned to the Institute with three new All-Americans and three new school records. Freshman John Dieken broke two records in the Nationals and more here at home, con-

tributing to the excellent season in the water for MIT.

Both men's and women's fencing have good memories of the season just past. Having an especially good season was Judy Austin '77, a co-captain of the women's fencing team. This year she became the first MIT woman ever to qualify for the Nationals. Everyone expects her to do well in that competition, which is coming up in April. While Austin was busy qualifying for the Nationals, the men's team was

fighting its way to the finals in the New England championship. With a stupendous effort, the team took the tourney for the eighth year in a row. Junior Mark Smith, who fenced sabre during the regular season, turned in a first-place finish in foil in the Easterns the next week.

All this time, Dave Schaller '78 was leading the pistol team on to victory. Team captain Schaller was a member of the squad which shot the new National Air Pistol team record. He was also instrumental in the victory the team turned in at the Eastern Sectionals, held here.

Track is often considered an outdoor sport, but during the winter the team moves into Rockwell Cage and does its stuff. This year they did it particularly well, turning in a record with only one loss. Seniors Frank Richardson and Richard Okine, and Reid von Borstel '78 were all instrumental in the fantastic season. Richardson has been called the best distance runner MIT has ever had.



### classified advertising

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### sporting notices

Practice time for IM rifle will be available next Mon., March 28 from 4 to 6pm. The cost will be \$1.00.

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# sports

## Season preview

### Baseball to rebuild this season

By Tom Curtis

While most have been fighting against the last few winter snowstorms, the MIT baseball team has been preparing for spring, practicing indoors in Rockwell Cage.

After graduating four starters last year, Coach Francis O'Brien's troops are rebuilding, trying to fill the gaps. The toughest space to fill will be that of Mike Royal '76, last year's ace pitcher who has recorded more wins than any other hurler in MIT history.

Trying to fill Royal's spot are Ken Smith '77 and Pete Steinhagen '79. Smith, last year's number-two man, returns for his fourth year on the mound for the Beavers. Steinhagen, in his second year, returns with an excellent 8-1 record.

For hitting, the Beavers will rely on captain Dan Sundberg '77. Sundberg, in his fourth year, is the team's power hitter and will provide those long blasts that can turn a game around.

In the infield, Sundberg, formerly a catcher, has switched positions with last year's first baseman Joe Kracunas '79. At shortstop, Bob Maresca '78 will

be starting this year for the first time. Coach O'Brien has not yet picked a starting second baseman.

In the outfield, the team has only one returning starter, Jay Coopridger '79. Coopridger, however, is injured and a doubtful starter this year. Steve Garverick '79 and Kevin Holland '79 are in starting outfield positions for the first time.

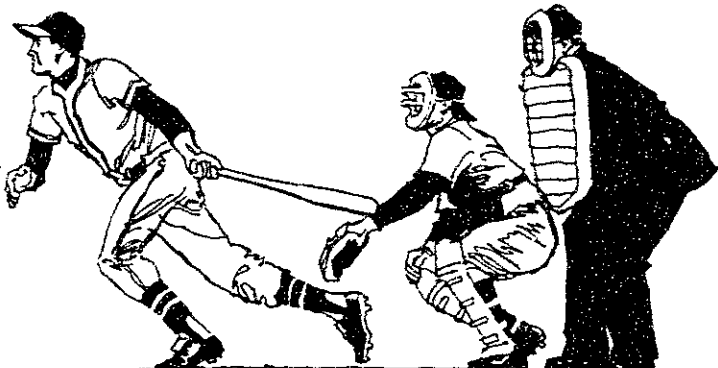
The Beavers open the season next week with their annual trip to Florida, where they will play in the Sanford Baseball Classic. On the return trip, the team will play Jacksonville University and Methodist College of Fayetteville, North Carolina.

The Beavers return home the Monday after Spring break to play Massachusetts Maritime

Academy at 3pm. The second and third weeks of the schedule should be the toughest with away games Wednesday at Tufts, Thursday at Boston College, Saturday at Bowdoin, and a home game the following Monday against Brandeis.

MIT competes in the Greater Boston League against Brandeis, the defending champion, Tufts, and NCAA Division I schools Boston College, Harvard, and Northeastern. The Beavers will try to improve on last year's 14-11 record (3-5 in GBL) and repeat their feat of 1974, receiving a bid to the NCAA Division II and III playoffs.

However, the going will be tough. Only time can tell if they will succeed.



### Golfers open with trip to south

By Leo Bonnell

Leo Bonnell '77 is a member of the Varsity golf team.

After a very successful 5-2 fall season, one of its best in recent years, the varsity golf team will be heading south soon on a seven-day pre-season training trip over spring vacation.

The golfers are fortunate to be able to practice and play on some of the finest courses in the south during that week. Current plans call for the team to stop first in Savannah, Ga. where they will spend two days in competition against Armstrong State College at the beautiful Savannah Inn and Country Club. On the way to Florida the team will also play at the Sea Island Country Club in Brunswick, Ga., not far from Jimmy Carter's now-famous summer home. This course, rated in the nation's top 50, is one of the most challenging to be found anywhere.

While in Florida, the linksmen will be guests of the Florida Institute of Technology in Melbourne. As in past years, the Engineers will practice and compete for four days against FIT and other local colleges on several of the fine courses nearby, including Admiralty Country Club.

Team members selected by Coach Barry to go on the trip include veterans Robert Kneeland '77, Leo Bonnell '77, Mark Swenson '78, Mark Hughes '79, Mike Varrell '79 and Lee Suna '79, as well as newcomers Jaime

Dornbusch '78, Doug Wegner '79 and Mike Mendelson '80. The inspired play of the newcomers last fall means that a spot for the veterans in the starting seven is by no means assured. Both Wegner and Dornbusch were in the top five, competing in the New Englands in October. Also, the improved play of several of the JV golfers must be considered, most

notably that of Mike Mendelson who won his last fall JV match on the first sudden-death hole.

Prospects appear excellent for a fourth consecutive winning year for the Engineers, as well as for a strong showing in the Greater Bostons in late April. The first home match will be on Monday, April 11, against Suffolk and Clark.

### Graduate Student Council Awards

Nominees for the Irwin Sizer Award for "the most significant improvement to MIT education," are being sought by the MIT Graduate Student Council.

The award, which carries a cash gift, was established by GSC in 1975 as a permanent tribute to Dr. Irwin Sizer, former Dean of the Graduate School and now president of the Health Science Fund and consultant to the Resource Development Office.

Nominations are also being sought for the Graduate Student Council Award for "effective and dedicated teaching of a graduate level course." Through this award, the Council hopes to focus attention on faculty who devote increasing amounts of time and resources to improved teaching.

Letters of nomination for both awards — including references and supporting material — should be submitted to the Graduate Student Council Office, Room 50-110, by April 13th at the latest.

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### Sailors 1st in regatta

By Audrey Greenhill

Last Sunday, on a day more suited to skiing than to sailing, the MIT sailing team topped a field of five schools in its first regatta of the spring season.

The win was a combined effort of varsity, freshmen and women's divisions. Five races were sailed at Harvard in Interclub dinghies. Barbara Belt '77 and Sally Husted '78 co-skipped to win low-point honors in the women's division. As co-skippers, seniors Chris Berg, Bill Critch, Chris Donnelly and Steve Ryan took

fourth place in the varsity division with only three points separating them from second. Freshman Dave Nelson with crew Tom Olausson '80 placed second in his division.

Tomorrow and Sunday the men will be defending the Boston Dinghy Club Cup in the 47th NEISA Spring Invitational at Coast Guard. There will be twenty schools competing, including some from the Pacific Coast and the South. The freshmen sail Sunday in an invitational at Harvard.

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