

in the news

INSIDE

New Commons plans are being offered that do not provide seconds, but which are available at lower cost. These plans are part of an effort to increase the popularity of MIT's deficit-plagued food services.

p3

The English progressive-rock group Yes released its first album in three years, *Going For the One*, and it was worth the wait. Also worth waiting for was the reunion of Graham Nash, Steven Stills and David Crosby in CSN.

p7

Federal science policy is now undergoing two major tests — how best to regulate recombinant DNA research, and whether to ban saccharin — and the controversy surrounding both subjects is growing.

p9

CAMPUS

Boston's record heat-wave ended none-too-soon for MIT employees in non-air-conditioned buildings. Besides straining the capacity of air conditioning systems, the heat was severe enough for many workers to be released early in the afternoon, resulting in early closings for many offices.

Dean for Student Affairs Carola Eisenberg is now reviewing a list of possible candidates to replace Professor of Electrical Engineering James Bruce as Housemaster of Burton House. House President Phil Kesten said that he was "not optimistic" about the likelihood of finding a new couple by September, but added that Bruce would help out with R/O activities.

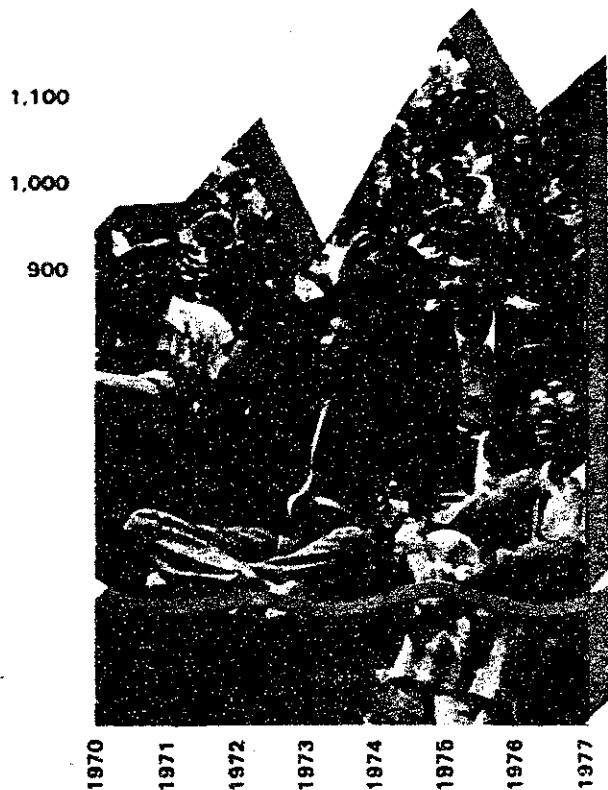
THE TECH

The Tech will publish nine special daily issues during R/O Week, beginning September 1. Regular twice-weekly publication will resume on September 13.

Staff for this summer issue: Penny Berman '80, Marcia Grabow '79, Katy Gropp '80, Brenda Hamilton '79, Kathy Hardis '78, Bill Harper '79, Mark James '78, Steve Kirsch G, Dave Koretz '78, Bill Lasser '78, John Lupien '81, Julia Malakie '77, Mark Munkacsy '78, Kent Pitman '80, Dave Potter '78, Rich Renner '78, Mike Ries '79, Len Tower, Mitch Trachtenberg '78, Marty Weinstock.

Class of '81 size far exceeds goal

Sizes of entering classes



By Kent Pitman

"We are going to have 80-85 more kids [in the class of '81] than we planned on," Director of Admissions Peter Richardson '48 said last Wednesday.

In spite of a resolution by the Academic Council, a high-level planning group, last December to limit class size to 1000, Richardson confirmed that 1102 people have already told MIT that they will definitely attend classes here in the fall.

He insisted, however, that "that number is not going to hold up — at least it never has in the past." He explained that some of those persons are expected to change their minds at the last minute, making the actual class size approximately 1080.

The trick is in successfully being able to calculate how many students who receive acceptance letters from MIT will actually decide to attend. The percentage varies greatly from year to year. Last year, 47 percent of those accepted arrived in the fall; this year 56 percent have said they intend to do so.

"I have to decide in March how many kids to admit... there's an amount of luck and hopefully some skill involved," Richardson admitted.

Of those 1102 now planning to attend, 16 percent are women, leaving the male-female ratio at the Institute essentially unchanged. Richardson said that he was "not sure what it's going to take to change that. That's a pretty stable number."

He pointed out that an extra effort was being made to recruit women students, but emphasized that the admissions standards for both sexes are the same. "When it comes to selection, it's as honest and fair as we can make it."

Some members of the MIT community had been concerned that some students would be scared off by adverse publicity surrounding the publication of an article in *thursday* (an MIT student publication) entitled "A Consumer Guide to MIT Men," in which the sexual performances of a number of students were rated on a scale from one to four stars.

Richardson indicated his belief that such fears are unfounded. He admitted to having heard rumors of parents who had reportedly changed their minds about sending their children to MIT on the basis of information about the *thursday* article, but he firmly denied those rumors. "We have tracked down every case... We have no proven case in which it's made a difference."

In an attempt to explain why the class size was so large, Richardson said that since the size of the faculty is more or less fixed from year to year, it is necessary to bring in enough students that money from their tuitions will balance a certain portion of the instructors' salaries.

Richardson noted that the overcrowding of the dormitory system in recent years has been the "limiting factor" in class size expansion, adding that Random Hall, which had previously been used primarily for temporary housing, will be opened as a dormitory this fall to partially alleviate the overcrowding (see story at left).

Random Hall to be dorm again

By Marty Weinstock

Random Hall, an MIT-owned building located four blocks from MIT's main entrance, will again become a dormitory next September.

This decision was made by the Academic Council last month based on a projected freshmen class size of 1080-1085, according to Associate Dean for Student Affairs Kenneth C. Browning '66. This size is 80-85 greater than that originally desired by the MIT administration.

Random Hall was temporarily used as a dormitory from 1967 to 1970. For the past seven years it has served as a lodging house principally for visiting fellows and academic staff as well as various students.

The abundance of freshman causing this decision results from the Admissions Office underestimating the "yield" or percentage of admitted students accepting their offer to attend MIT (for more details see accompanying story on class size).

A class size of 1080 should result in overcrowding the dormitory system by 109 students — versus 96 last year — according to Browning. Carola Eisenberg, Dean for Student Affairs, noted that none of this crowding will occur in Random Hall.

Among the other options considered was that of overcrowding the dorm system by just over 200 students. "While students generally are cooperative and can try to work through" this is "not a one year problem" Browning asserted, adding that a "lot of upperclassmen" would be affected.

The fraternities can not be overcrowded both by the nature of the assignment process and the fact that they normally use all the space that they have available. Browning indicated that due to last year's poor rush the Interfraternity Conference was not anxious to expand.

Graduate student housing, used for undergraduates in 1974-75, could not be used due to the corresponding shortage in that

system. This left housing outside the system. Random Hall was already licensed as a rooming house and naturally came up, Browning indicated.

The Campus Housing Office is currently surveying Random Hall for minor renovation and repair work as well as a furniture inventory. They are hoping to have it empty by the end of July for pest control work as well as lock changing and scrambling. Cleanup, patching and some painting, a safety survey, lighting and radiator repair, and installation of bookcases are also planned or underway as well as some other renovation work.

"Any major work that will have to be done will have to be done next year," Eugene Brammer, Director of Housing and Food Services indicated. Some structural work on the roof as well as external masonry and window work is planned for next year but "we can't wait to get all the

numbers in before we start something [now]," he remarked.

A portion of the August work will be the conversion of a single on each floor to a common area. This will leave the building with 42 singles and 29 doubles, space for exactly 100 men.

Fifteen dormphones will be installed for the residents, Everett Butcher '76 of Dormphone repair indicated. They are to be run over eight rented New England Telephone lines to Ashdown House where they tie into MIT's Dormphone system.

The dean's office is currently searching for a faculty resident and three graduate residents. According to Bonny Kellerman '72, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, this will ideally be a faculty couple, one graduate couple and two individuals as "this is what it [the space] will accommodate." Interested parties should contact Assistant Dean for Student Af-

(Please turn to page 13)

Asinari killer sentenced to life

By David B. Koretz

The second of two men arrested for the 1975 murder of an MIT junior was sentenced on June 21 to life imprisonment in the Walpole State Prison.

John J. Blodgett, 26, of Methuen, Mass., was arrested by FBI agents in Houston, Texas on March 7, 1977 after a two-year nationwide manhunt. Blodgett and Robert Shaughnessy, 22, of South Boston, were indicted by a Suffolk County Grand Jury in March, 1975 for the brutal slaying of John Asinari, a 20-year-old pre-medical student.

Asinari died early on the morning of March 22, 1975, of injuries received when he and a companion, Robert Moses '76, were attacked by four men with whom they were riding. Moses was seriously injured but eventually recovered.

According to a *Boston Globe* report Moses testified at the trial that Blodgett was the driver of the

car that stopped and picked up the two students on Massachusetts Ave. in the Back Bay at 2:30 on the morning of the murder.

Moses said that the man in the front passenger seat was Shaughnessy, who hanged himself in the Charles St. Jail in Nov., 1975. The two men in the rear seat have not yet been identified or apprehended.

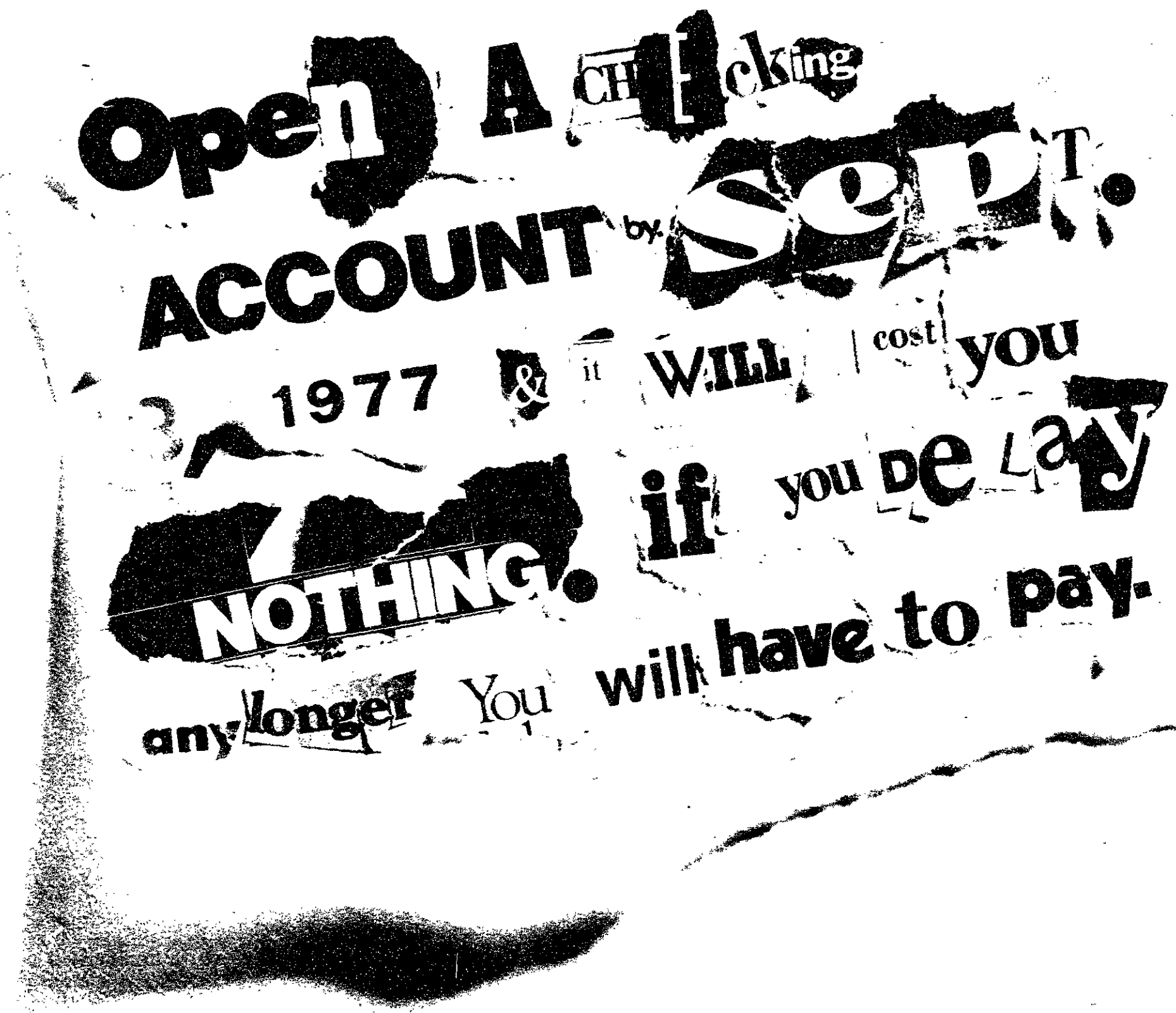
According to Moses' testimony, Blodgett stabbed him repeatedly, wounding him eight times; Shaughnessy attacked Asinari in an even more frenzied manner. Shaughnessy then shot the two youths at point-blank range, according to the testimony, injuring Moses in the arm and hand, and Asinari in the ear.

When the car stopped on East Second St. in South Boston after a 50-minute ride, the students managed to escape from the vehicle. Moses was able to escape

further attack, but Asinari was stabbed in the back and then beaten on the head with a tire iron as he lay in the gutter.

The trial lasted several weeks but the jury returned its verdict within an hour. District Attorney John I. Gaffney requested consecutive life sentences, arguing that Blodgett "should never see the light of day again" in order to "protect the people of the Commonwealth from the mad dog that he is." Gaffney maintained that the assault was "the most vicious and dastardly crime that has been seen in many years."

However, Judge James P. McGuire acceded to Defense Attorney Joseph J. Balliro's plea for concurrent sentences, thereby providing an opportunity for parole. McGuire sentenced Blodgett, a seventh-grade dropout, to two concurrent life sentences, a concurrent 18-20 year term and two consecutive 8-10 year terms.



Listen carefully. Here are the specific instructions. If you want a checking account with no service charges or check charges for the 1977-78 term, fill out this coupon and send it to Cambridge Trust immediately with your deposit. (Or at least on or before Sept. 3, 1977.) The alternative is to bring the money with you and deposit it at 326 Main St. in Cambridge. But you must do it on or before Sept. 3, 1977! Either way, you will receive no further instructions!

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'No seconds' Commons plans introduced

By Mitch Trachtenberg

In an effort to increase the utilization of MIT's food service facilities, the Dining Service will introduce a new single-serving Commons plan next fall, according to Eugene Brammer, Director of Housing and Food Services.

Dining Service will continue to offer Commons on an unlimited seconds basis for those who prefer to use this option.

The new plans are the result of discussions which took place throughout last spring between

cept on weekends, when the Student Center cafeteria is the only Commons outlet open.

Subscriptions to the service will cost about 15 per cent less than subscriptions to the corresponding unlimited seconds program. The savings to subscribers will probably exceed the food savings to Dining Service, which Brammer speculates will not exceed 12 to 12½ per cent.

Last year, Commons subscriptions amounted only to the equivalent of about 750 fifteen meal

tually these halls can serve more than the total populations of their respective dorms.

Baker House residents and Dining Service will cooperate next year on an experimental program to increase the number of Commons subscriptions at the Baker Dining Hall. The Hall will offer — to Baker residents only — both single serving and unlimited Commons. An honor system will be relied on to keep down cheating.

In addition, residents signing up for Commons both terms next year will receive a special discount.

The program, Baker hopes, will enable the dorm to better use its Dining Hall as a dorm social facility.

Existing subsidies to the Commons program from students residing in Institute dormitories — \$50 per year from residents of all dorms except Baker and MacGregor, where a charge of \$85 is levied — proved insufficient to keep Commons afloat last year at its low subscription level. A deficit of approximately \$10,000 accumulated over the year.

"Our aim is to break even. But our goals are set 18 months ahead . . . you really can't know too much about what's going to happen."

Dining Service and student representatives. Brammer feels that many students may be deterred from subscribing to Commons because they do not want seconds and do not want to pay for them as part of the Commons fee. Now, he says, "We'll see if that's the reason."

"Once-through service," as the new option is called, will be available — except for Baker residents — only at Lobdell Cafeteria in the Student Center.

Unlimited seconds Commons will not be served at Lobdell ex-

plans each term. As a result of the extremely low number of subscribers to the system, costs are higher than they need be, according to Brammer. Approximately 60 per cent of the Dining Service costs are fixed; they would remain unchanged with an increase in subscribers. The largest fraction of these fixed costs is labor.

For example, according to Brammer, the Baker and MacGregor Dining Halls "could serve the entire Baker and MacGregor populations with no real increase in cost except for food cost." Ac-

Bus to serve food store

By David Potter

Saturday bus service between MIT campus living groups and Stop and Shop supermarket will begin a four week trial period on September 17 at cost of \$5.50 per round trip ticket.

All MIT living groups from Eastgate to Westgate will be covered by the service, which will stop at seven designated locations across the campus.

In the past, students often borrowed shopping carts for the half-mile of more trip back to the MIT campus, but Stop and Shop recently moved to discourage this practice by placing barriers around the store.

This new service is the implementation of a concept researched and developed by Jeffrey Buxbaum '79, Cicely Frampton '78, Ann Stevens '79, Sheryl Strothers '80, Robert Tykulska '79, and John Zuman '78 in 1.102, Transportation Systems Laboratory Projects.

The development group will share responsibility for operation of the service with the Undergraduate Association, which agreed at a March 22 meeting to fund initial costs and subsidize any deficit during the first three weeks of operation. In order to break even, the service must carry 520 students per week. The maximum number of students the service will be able to handle will be 1680 per week, or 80 students in each of the 56

Saturday trips. Four buses would be used.

Stop and Shop has responded enthusiastically to the proposed service, according to the 1.102 report, and has agreed to provide parking space for the bus and announce arrivals and departures over its public-address system. In addition, Stop and Shop plans to provide occasional coupons to ticket purchasers.

Tickets are scheduled to go on sale Wednesday, September 14 in the lobby of Building 10 and at most dormitory desks.

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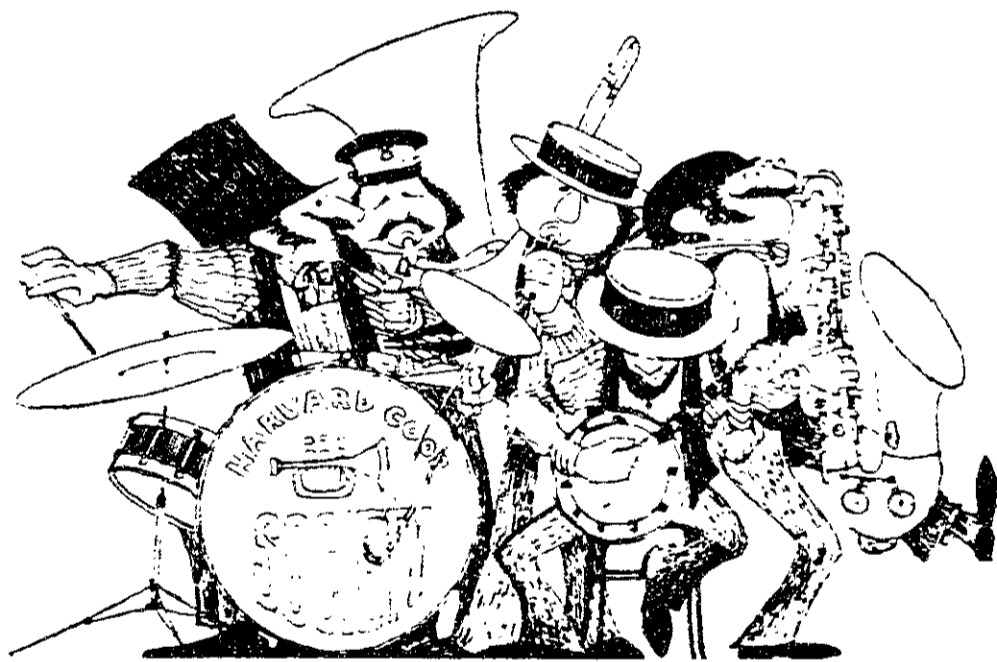
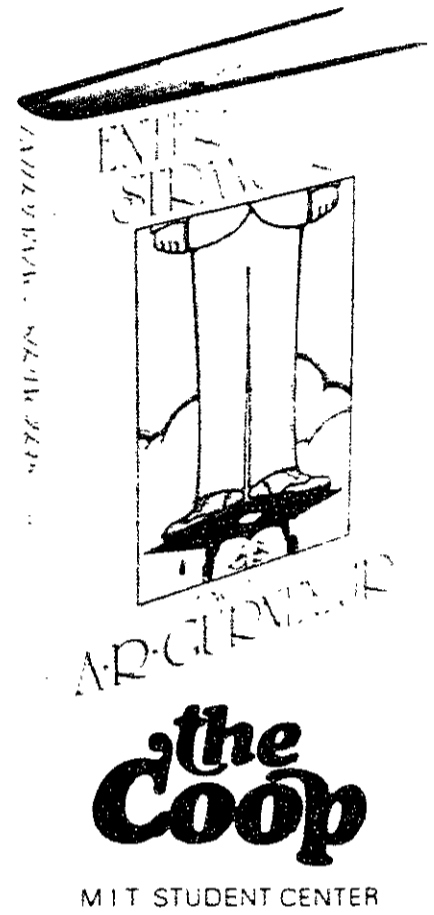
A devastatingly funny and sophisticated dissection of the academic life.

Entertaining Strangers

By A.R. Gurney, Jr.

A humanities professor at MIT in search of an assistant and an ally against the know-nothing scientists and engineers at the Institute hires a young professor from Oxford and all hell breaks loose. His new assistant seduces his wife, turns his friends against him and plots to assume chairmanship of the department, driving our hero amok to eventually lose his job. Will sweet revenge be his? Or will he live to rue the day he ever sets eyes on him again?

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MIT Student Center

There's more to MIT than just academics

By William Lasser

In September of 1969 the members of the Class of '73 arrived on campus. They paid \$2250 each in tuition their first year. *The Tech* warned them that they would have to "face up to some issues bigger than weekly problem sets."

Eight years later, tuition has almost doubled — to \$4350 a year. The mood on campus has changed about as much as tuition: this year, the toughest problem most freshmen will have to solve will probably come from an 8.01 or 5.41 homework assignment.

The decisions faced by MIT freshmen — where to live, what to study, how to spend their time — seem at first dwarfed by the massive social issues confronting their counterparts of a decade ago. Before the Class of '73 entered its second year, it had already lived through sit-ins, riots, strikes and demonstrations both at MIT and on college campuses all across the country, the climax coming in May of 1970 when four students were killed at Kent State.

It must have been quite an education. MIT was described as a "politico-technological pressure cooker" in a *The Tech* editorial, with the emphasis presumably on the "politico." The "technological" probably referred not to science or engineering in general, but to MIT's role in weapons research and other war-related pursuits. Education was placed on a back burner; indeed, the Institute ended its spring term early in 1970, following the Kent State tragedy.

MIT is still a pressure cooker. One undoubtedly gets quite an education here. But political activity is practically nonexistent — the MIT student body yawned its way through the Presidential election last fall, then turned around and elected an Undergraduate President and Vice President who promised "leaves on the trees," and, like Jimmy Carter, peace, love and happiness.

If MIT students eschew politics, they are intimately concerned with economics, especially of the practical variety. From the beginning of freshman year through graduation and beyond, the overriding concerns seem to be jobs and money. Grades have become overwhelmingly important, at the expense of extracurricular activities and simple fun. MIT has become not an end in itself but a means to future success — be that medical school, graduate school, money in the bank or a two-martin lunch.

here
and
now

Because of ever-increasing tuition, shrinking job markets and unceasing competition, today's college students have little time to devote to social issues. We have become used to listening not to Vietnam casualties on the evening news, but to "leading economic indicators" and the consumer price index. Far from being idealistic altruists, today's college students are almost selfish opportunists.

It is well documented that in times of economic crisis, men direct their energies towards self-survival. But an education does not consist of courses and grades alone. It is also important to use four years of college as an opportunity to explore the world around you while still being protected and insulated in an artificial academic environment. Ten years ago the ivory towers of academia were invaded by real world politicians and bureaucrats whose only task was to find willing and unwilling soldiers for a very real war. Today, the invasion is an intellectual one: we are succumbing to economic pressures which we could easily ignore until at least graduation.

Of the four years at MIT, the first one is the most important. A welcome indication of where MIT stands philosophically is freshman pass/fail grading: the educational emphasis is less on specific course material and more on developing a modus operandi for enjoying and taking full advantage of MIT and the real world. In practice, things don't always work out that way. Spurred on by pre-meds who insist that Harvard really *does* care about your 5.41 grade, freshmen ignore the wealth of opportunities waiting for them outside the classroom.

There are many choices to make during R/O week. Most of them won't make any difference. Twenty years from now, no one will ask whether you took 8.01 or 8.012. Three months from now, the living group you selected at 3am will be home.

The biggest decision is one you will make long after R/O week: whether or not to take full advantage of *everything* the Institute offers. Life begins after classes.



Searching for employment

By Lynn Yamada

Being a female 1977 civil engineering graduate from MIT, I had visions of Exxon, Bechtel, and Pullman Kellogg knocking down my door with job offers.

Well, that's all it was, a vision. Despite what people tell you about how easy it is to find a job as a female civil engineering graduate, take it from me, it isn't. If I were a mechanical, electrical or chemical engineer it might be different, but because the building industry was in a big depression last year and is just beginning to start up again now, it's very difficult to find a job as a civil engineer.

I suppose a lot of my problem was that I started looking for a job kind of late. I graduated in three years and had to file a petition in order to do it. The petition was not approved until late April, and that's when I started looking for a job. Considering most graduates had been looking since December and most had accepted offers in February, that was late.

But I thought that my early graduation would be an asset and would make up for my late start. After sending out 150 cover letters and resumes — but having received no decent job offers — I wonder if I was a bit off in my assumption.

I have gone to about a dozen interviews, with small and large companies, and I have been given a few offers, but none that were commensurate with my education and none that really required a civil engineer. I don't think I'm being too picky, either. For example, one insurance company offered me a job as a prevention loss engineer. I would have gone around to buildings they had insured and inspected them for safety conditions. They offered a nice salary plus the use of a car and all the expenses that went with the car. It was my first offer and it was really tempting but I decided against it because it seemed like work that really did not require the knowledge of a civil engineer. And what really turned me off about the job was that they told me they had promoted one of their secretaries to do the work. I have nothing against secretaries, but I did not feel that this job would challenge

me to any great extent.

Then there was the structural engineering firm that was very excited about my knowledge of structural analysis and building codes but could only afford to hire me at the minimum wage. I'm not the money-grubbing type, but after three years at MIT I felt I deserved better than that.

So I continued to interview. I had a nice interview with a very large corporation in New York. They flew me down all expenses paid and kept me at their offices from 9am until 5pm talking with eight different people. I thought I had impressed them with my

perspectives

enthusiasm and with my knowledge of construction. But after waiting three weeks I got word that, although they were impressed with me, their "priorities had changed and could

not afford the salary" to pay me. It was a nice flush letter but still no job.

Recently I have interviewed with a large nuclear power-plant construction company, an electric power line company and a ship-building company. I thought these interviews went well, too, but they all told me they couldn't give me a definite answer for another two weeks. Those two weeks aren't over yet so I still have some waiting to do.

Things are not as bad as I paint the picture to be. I have a typesetting job right now that is keeping me busy and paying the bills while I wait. And I figure that even if none of these companies come through, interviewing is an art and I can look on them as practice for the job I will clinch one of these days.

But if anyone knows of a company interested in hiring a recent civil engineering graduate, write me here at the newspaper and let me know about it. Thanks a lot.

R/O advice to frosh

By John Shelton

Editors' note: John Shelton is Fall 1977 R/O Coordinator.

Well, everybody else has had a chance to talk to you, the incoming class of 1981, in some form or another. Now it's my turn. I could use this space to repeat everything that has been said in the five or so pounds of paper that the Freshman Advisory Council and others have sent you, but instead, I will try to emphasize some of what I feel are the more important points, and then move on to some other points, and possibly scramble some eggs.

Many have already told you that R/O week will be one of the best times of your life. Well, I won't tell you that. Of course, I won't dispute it either; I leave it to you to decide for yourself. Many of us are working hard to see that the opportunity is there. Most of you will have a good time here, but a few of you will inevitably have a few problems that prove to be an annoyance, and will stand in the way of your getting the most out of R/O Week. I think it is a good time now to remind you of the resources available.

The first place you will see when you arrive on Friday, September 2 (or possibly Thurs-

day, September 1) will be the R/O Center, on the second floor of the Student Center. The R/O Center will be open long hours and on weekends, and therefore will be one of the easiest places to stop in to solve problems, or just talk to people. The R/O center is staffed by students, many of whom have been through the R/O experience themselves.

Secondly, there are the many resources of the Dean for Student Affairs Office, which includes the Freshman Advisory Council. You should not hesitate to drop into any of these offices, which are located on the ground floor of the main building, in rooms 7-105, 7-133, and 5-104.

The R/O schedule that you will receive when you arrive will mention the Unrush, located in a third floor dining room in the Student Center. The people of Unrush have the time to talk to Freshmen about anything, and would be happy to talk to you. They won't be pressuring you to join their living group, or participate in a particular activity or sport. Instead, they will be able to give you straight talk to help you make up your mind about things, or perhaps just talk about floor.

(Please turn to page 5)

The
Tech

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opinion cont.

R/O week guide to visiting frats, dorms

By Phil Kesten and Milton Roye

Editor's note: Phil Kesten is Dormitory Council R/O Chairman, and Milton Roye is Interfraternity Council Rush chairman.

No doubt you've heard this before — "you are about to embark on perhaps the most exciting four years of your life..." — and you've been getting a ton of advice a week this summer to help you prepare for them. Strange, isn't it — they tell you how much fun R/O Week is going to be, so who prepares for having fun? If you're smart, you will — because it is important! Here are some good ideas to keep in mind when

making your R/O plans:

* See the fraternities Friday night and Saturday. Even if you think you'd like to live in a dorm, check out the fraternities anyway.

* Since Friday and Saturday are the best times to visit the fraternities, hold off on the dorms until at least Sunday, and most definitely save your sightseeing for another time — Boston will wait.

* Think carefully about which fraternities you'd like to see, and please, limit yourself to four at the most. Remember, they've got to get to know you in the same short time you've got to get to know them.



MIT should adopt heat closing rules

The Tech received a copy of this letter to the Office of Personnel Services.

To the Editor:

Could you please standardize and make public a policy on dismissing employees early on hot days? This week's decisions have seemed confusing and arbitrary.

Why were we let go early on Tuesday and not on Wednesday,

when by most accounts, Wednesday was a far more miserable day to be at work in unairconditioned offices?

I'm sure you've heard this complaint before, but do the decision makers work in Air Conditioning? From the point of view of those who don't have that privilege, this is certainly a valid complaint (and a sore point!).

Just from the point of view of health, leaving aside human misery, it makes sense to let people in unairconditioned offices go early. It is well known that the pollution level goes up during heat waves, and with windows open to catch breezes, we're also catching a greater concentration of bad air. Our building is on the busiest intersection of the Institute (Mass. Ave. and Vassar Street), and the fumes have to be inhaled to be believed. Like to come for a visit?

It would be a little easier to take if we had some sense of the logic(?) that goes into the decision making, rather than having to wait on the benevolent or not so benevolent whim of Authority.

In the meantime, we're very hot.

Myra Sbarounis
Susanna Natti
Eleanor Stagiola
Electronic Systems Laboratories
July 21, 1977

Living through R/O

(Continued from page 4)

reinaucinihilipilification. (Look it up!)

Also, please note that a lot of the upperclassmen on campus when you arrive here will be here specifically to help freshmen during R/O week. Many will be wearing R/O Committee armbands, and will be working in some capacity or another.

Don't forget your freshman advisor and associate advisor. They have been selected because of their willingness to work with freshmen. While these are the people that will help you with your academic schedule, don't hesitate to call on them for any other questions.

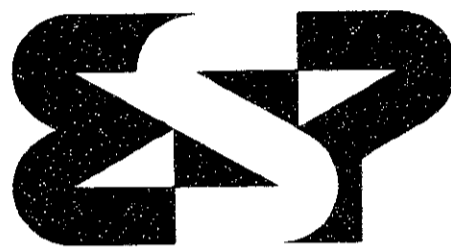
Moving right along, you may have noticed that there was a reply card in the *Freshman Handbook* for Pre-picnic informal meetings. These will be small-group meetings just before the Freshman Picnic on Friday, meeting hopefully out on the Great Court. A discussion group will have a handful of freshmen and two upperclassmen leading the group — one from a fraternity, and one from a dormitory. This will be a good chance for you to meet other freshmen, and at least have someone to sit with at the picnic. If you haven't sent in this reply card yet, why not consider it?

I suppose I ought to remind you of the major goals of R/O week: you will need to find a place to live, decide on your first term subjects, and enjoy yourself, meeting new friends and discovering the Institute. I should point out that while these are important goals, they are not *that* important. Most people will be happy living in any of a number of places. Don't be demoralized if you don't get a bid from your favorite fraternity, or if your choice of dormitory doesn't have room for you.

Outside of trying to fulfill Institute requirements, it isn't too important what subjects you take during your freshman year. There are almost no courses here that are a waste of time; they are only if you already know the material. (An aside here: all options of various Institute requirements are satisfactory for all degree programs. For example, don't let anyone tell you that 8.013 doesn't

satisfy the freshman Physics requirement for Course VI (Electrical Engineering)... it does!)

I guess I have rambled on for quite a while. I hope some of you feel enlightened, just a little bit. We are looking forward to your arrival here in Cambridge. (Ha, ha. A fresh crop of turkeys.) Don't forget your tooth brush. I think I'll go fix some eggs...



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Star Wars is space opera at its finest

No  *Star Wars*; a Lucasfilm Ltd. Production; starring Mark Hamill, Harrison Ford, Carrie Fisher, Peter Cushing and Alec Guinness; also starring Anthony Daniels and Kenny Baker; written and directed by George Lucas; produced by Gary Kurtz; special photographic effects supervised by John Dykstra; a Twentieth Century Fox release, rated PG. Soundtrack on Twentieth Century records, music written and conducted by John Williams, featuring the London Symphony Orchestra.

By Katy Gropp

The latest space opera to hit the movie theatres, *Star Wars* is also the best. Combining magnificent special effects with fast moving action and a high degree of suspense, George Lucas's brainchild has brought the fun back to the movies, a welcome throwback in the wake of a never-ending procession of ultraviolent, disaster and supernatural films of recent years.

From the opening, the movie clearly demonstrates the awesome care and innovation present in the animation and special effects. Visible for more than one half of the film, they are so well executed that the tell-tale mattelines are almost impossible to find. Everything looks natural. From the breathtaking view of the Tatooine System and the futile attempt of the Princess's ship to flee from the immense Imperial cruiser, to the intricate dogfight between the rebel X-wing fighters and the Imperial TIE fighters over the Death Star, no opportunity is missed, no detail is overlooked.

As fantastic as they are, it is the absolute thoroughness of the special effects that makes the movie so astounding. The eyes of the Jawas, Luke's binoculars, Princess Leia's plea for help, the double sunset on Tatooine, the landspeeder, the lightsavers, the jump to hyperspace, the monster chess game, the weapons fire, the incredible detail of the surface of the Death Star... the list is endless and the result is nothing short of spectacular.

Marvellous attention is given to the creation of this galaxy "far, far away." Typical is the scene at the bar — the wide array of believable (and sometimes comical) aliens drink to the music (believe it or not, Benny

Goodman) of the also alien house band. Lucas takes advantage of this setting for Han Solo's "discussion" with the Galactic hit man employed by a smuggler named Jabba. The multi-language conversation does much to further the impression of a truly distant galaxy.

No previous science fiction movie is nearly as realistic as *Star Wars*. Instead of a society where almost everyone is of the same species, carrying exactly the same weapons, flying their brand-new identical spacecraft, there are bounty hunters, smugglers, at least four types of blasters, four models of fighters, various starships, many kinds of sentient beings, not to mention the multitudes of "droids." All of the sets have a weatherbeaten, used look that adds to the realism of the movie.

The cinematography is superb. Scene changes are used to keep the film moving rapidly. Though there are breathers every now and then, the movie never drags. Each scene has its purpose — whether to sway the audience's sympathy or to keep the suspense building and the plot moving. Not a frame is wasted. Angles are used with great success — the perspective given as the huge Imperial cruiser passes overhead in pursuit of the Princess is fabulous.

Centering on the two droids, C-3PO (Anthony Daniels) and R2-D2 (Kenny Baker), the story follows them on their journey as stowaways on an escape pod enroute to the arid planet Tatooine. They argue, separate, and are both captured by



Jawas, the diminutive local junk dealers. After a rather shaky ride in the amazing holding area inside the Jawas' decrepit sand-crawler, along with an equally amazing assortment of droids, the two are sold to a farmer, Owen Lars (Phil Brown). That night R2-D2 runs away from his new home to fulfill a mysterious secret mission, and the farmer's young nephew, Luke Skywalker (Mark Hamill) follows him the next morning taking C-3PO along. After an altercation with the Sand People, the two droids and Luke plunge into a series of adventures that take them from Mos Eisley Spaceport to the monstrous Death Star, rescuing the Princess Leia Organa (Carrie Fisher) along the way, and finally involving them in the ultimate race against time in an attempt to destroy the pride of the Empire before it destroys the rebel base.

Although the movie tends to be a series of chase scenes, the acting is more than adequate. Of the major characters, C-3PO and R2-D2 have by far the most difficult roles to play. Overcoming the major handicap of not being able to use facial expressions, they both do a tremendous job. Daniels, in his portrayal of the fussy interpreter C-3PO, makes slight inflections in the droid's monotone and in his jerky motion go a long way, and Baker, as R2-D2, combines the turnings of a hemispherical

head with the continual amalgam of noises that is the little droid's language to produce a startlingly life-like effect.

The droids have their own personalities and intentions. R2-D2 deliberately deceives Luke into removing his restraining bolt, which frees the diminutive droid to run away. C-3PO has periodic memory lapses concerning the Princess. At the beginning of the movie, he knows exactly who she is ("There will be no escape for the princess this time"), then he later tells Luke that he doesn't know who she is, only that he believes she "is a person of some importance."

Of the rest of the characters amassed in this futuristic fairy tale, Hamill gives a fine performance as the frustrated Luke, who



has lived with his uncle since his father, the finest star pilot in the galaxy, died. Harrison Ford as Han Solo, the arrogant, blaster-swinging captain of the Millennium Falcon, almost steals the show with his one-liners. His first mate, a Wookiee named Chewbacca, played by Peter Mayhew, has the habit of roaring at the most inopportune moments. Alec Guinness as the ex-Jedi Knight Obi-Wan Kenobi and Peter Cushing as the evil Grand Moff Tarkin turn in their customary fine showings. Only Carrie Fisher's delivery as the daring rebel member of the Imperial Senate, the anything but a damsel-in-distress Princess Leia, seems forced.

Comedy is an active element in this film, providing necessary relief at times. Some of the routines are classic — the two droids travel through the middle of a vicious blaster battle, emerging unscathed; Solo tries to explain away the "disturbance" in the detention level, totally blows it, and ends up destroying the intercom as the only way out. Just as the heroes are cut off from the only apparent way out of the detention area, they disappear through a hole in the wall to find themselves in the grand-daddy of all trashmashers. As they try to return to the Millennium Falcon, Luke and the princess take a "wrong turn" ending up at the edge of a deep chasm in the battle station. "Quick, we have got to get to the other side. Find the control sticks on the



bridge," she cries. Glumly he tells her, "I think I just blasted them."

Motifs run rampant all through *Star Wars*. The quest, the mystical "Force," wizards and sorcerers, magical swords, the teacher and the student, the old man and the young boy, the captive princess, the poor boy who makes good, the young power corrupted by evil (Darth Vader), even a touch of the *Wizard of Oz*, are all found interwoven into this swashbuckling epic tale.

A glorious companion to George Lucas's masterpiece is John Williams's musical score. As in opera, each of the major characters has his own theme, which appears when he does. In addition, the music adds emotional impact to the more dramatic portions of the movie. Complementing the film perfectly, the score gently coaxes the audience into experiencing *Star Wars*, not just observing it. The soundtrack has been released on a two-record set.

Artistic liberties are taken in this film, most of them regarding the use of sound and light in space, but they are so well done that they cannot be severely criticized. The twelve-parsec joke, however, is mainly amusing because not that many people understand it.

Star Wars' phenomenal attendance is unquestionably deserved. The monumental efforts of the special effects personnel should be awarded with an Oscar, and the people involved with the editing, cinematography, set design, and musical score should not be ignored. A sequel is in the works, and considering that Darth Vader got away, it should prove interesting.

George Lucas is a master at encouraging audience participation. He shows us the comic and the cruel, frustration and dizzying suspense, despair and triumph, involving the audience so completely in the movie that, for a couple of hours, they can forget the outside world and have the time of their lives. A great movie lives up to what it claims to be. *Star Wars* was never promoted as a great work of science fiction, it was just supposed to be fun. It certainly is.

Life well eulogized

That was the Life by Dora Jane Hamblin. W.W. Norton & Co., Inc. \$10.00

By Gordon Huff


From its inception in 1936, *Life* was generally regarded as the best of its genre, the picture magazine. *That was the Life* accurately documents that publication. Dora Jane Hamblin's work examines the exploits of "God the photographer" in search of his memorable image, the "gambling money at the top" — a euphemism for bribes and other "unusual" expenditures, and the wild







office parties. In short, it is about what made *Life* what it was.

Never one to spare expense if more money could produce a better story, *Life* was the most extravagant magazine in the business from the very first issue. Among other things, it rented a DC-8 and converted the plane into a flying darkroom and layout office in order to get the coverage of Winston Churchill's funeral to New York in time to meet their press (Please turn to page 10)



All photos courtesy of Twentieth Century Fox-Film Corporation

The Tech has a rating system for its movie reviews. The basis of this system is the "turkey" symbol () and the following scale:

- no  excellent
-  very good
-  good
-  fair
-  poor
-  the absolute pits

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Record review

Yes comes roaring back: Going For the One

Going For the One — Yes on Atlantic Records

By David B. Koretz

"As Autumn calls we'll both remember
All those many years ago"

— from "Turn of the Century"

It's been only three years since Yes's last album, and the group shows on *Going For the One* that it does indeed remember how to play great music.

Record review

CSN reunion successful

CSN — Crosby, Stills, and Nash on Atlantic Records

By Mark James

Successful reunions of dissolved rock groups are rare, as egotism and individual success often get in the way. For years, Crosby, Stills, and Nash were a case in point, but this summer their release of *CSN* has made a long wait worthwhile.

The original *Crosby, Stills, and Nash* was recorded more than eight years ago and remains a classic today. Neil Young joined the three others for a second great album, *Deja Vu*, but the four musicians soon found it impossible to work together; after recording the live *Four-Way Street*, the band split four ways. The individuals have since produced some very good music and some less memorable material but many of the group's followers still hoped for a reunion. Except for a brief tour in 1974, all attempts in this direction have failed — until now.

This album was a test in many ways for Crosby, Stills, and Nash — a test of whether they could overcome infighting, of whether they would produce more than a nostalgia album, and of whether they could still make extraordinary music — and they have met the test and passed.

CSN reflects changes since the original album — instead of the youthful

In fact, Yes's latest release is better than anything the band has recorded in almost five years, when "Close to the Edge," from the album of the same name, became a standard for progressive contemporary music. Although this newest recording does not reach the heights realized by the group during the early 1970's, its most prolific period, the marvelous diversity and polished precision that have always

characterized Yes shine through here.

The title cut is the first one on the record, and knocks you out of your seat. This is the fastest and liveliest song Yes has done since classical guitarist Steve Howe replaced Peter Banks in 1971 and helped refine the band's style to one of almost "classical" rock. At first, "Going For the One" might sound a bit too raucous, but the crisp picking of Howe's steel guitar and Chris Squire's bass guitar combine with Jon Anderson's precise, almost falsetto tones for a delightfully different song.

"Turn of the Century" features some beautiful lyrics by Anderson about an aged sculptor whose wife of many years has died. The first Anderson poetry in six years that I have understood — most reviewers simply label his work "cosmic" — and a soft, drum-free tune come together as a beautiful song and yet another different Yes experience.

The other cut on the first side, "Parallels," is written by Squire, and is the only song on the album not written or co-written by Anderson. The amateurish quality of the lyrics demonstrates why Squire is the bass player and not the songwriter of the group, but the professionalism of the band and the church organ that keyboardist extraordinaire Rick Wakeman introduces salvage mediocrity for the song.

Wakeman rejoined the band last fall, after leaving in 1973 to record on his own again. Although Yes's music did not improve considerably when Wakeman first replaced Tony Kaye in 1972, sales of the group's records skyrocketed. When Wakeman left four years ago, Patrick Moraz (of *Mainhorse*) took over the keyboards, but his lackluster style was the reason for *Relayer's* (1974) unpopularity. Wakeman, ranked with Keith Emerson of Emerson, Lake and Palmer as one of rock's greatest keyboardists ever, adds excitement

and diversity that Moraz lacked.

This diversity is evidenced on the second side to an even greater extent. In the light "Wonderous Stories," Wakeman plays polymoog, a synthesizer that blends nicely with Steve Howe's vachaha to give the song a sweet harmonic quality. Unfortunately, "Wonderous Stories" is less than four minutes long — a perfect length for AM airplay, but one which leaves the listener wanting more. This length does, however, leave room on the side for the last and longest song (almost 16 minutes) on the album, "Awaken," and it is well worth it.

"Awaken" is in the mold of "Close to the Edge" and the four side-long songs of *Tales From Topographic Oceans* (1973). The blending of several musical styles into one composition is enhanced here by three unusual wrinkles — Wakeman's church organ, vocalist Anderson's admirable playing of the harp, and background vocals by the Richard Williams Singers. Here, as in many of Yes's more complicated orchestrations, the lyrics try to relate the music to the universe around it:

"Master of Images

Songs cast a light on you

Hark through dark ties

That tunnel us out of sane existence"

Don't feel bad if you don't understand it, the music is magnificent. Yes at its best is as close to classical music in complexity and originality as rock music ever gets. Some rock critics have called this "cosmic," but original Yes-men Peter Banks and drummer Bill Bruford (replaced by Alan White) left several years ago to form the far more cosmic group Genesis. The men who stayed are better-trained musicians, and their music shows it.

Going For the One is a thoroughly enjoyable album by a group of musicians utilizing their talents to the fullest. Now, if only they don't wait three more years until the next one.

enthusiasm and idealism that ran through their first record, intensity and precision are manifest through much of this album. The unmistakable and unmatched harmony vocals are still present, however, and they are perhaps better than ever.

Still's performance as both songwriter and musician is notable. Stills has been inconsistent in recent years, but he redeems himself on *CSN*. In addition to his solid work on acoustic and electric guitars throughout the album, he wrote and sang several of the best songs. "Fair Game" is a lively acoustic cut with a Latin rhythm. The anguish of Stills's recent separation from his wife is brought forth in "Run from Tears;" his powerful lyrics, strong vocal, and excellent electric guitar work are joined together with a Stills and Nash harmony to form a powerful combination.

Of all the CSN&Y roster, Nash has most consistently utilized his talents, both alone and in partnership with Crosby. He continues to excel as songwriter and vocalist here. His contributions include "Just a Song Before I Go," a short, lyrical love song that has received quite a bit of airplay; the moody "Cold Rain;" and "Cathedral," an unusual, emotional song about Nash's visit to Winchester Cathedral — a very

(Please turn to page 10)

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big

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This one got "thumbs-up."

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17

For nine consecutive days during R/O Week, *The Tech* will publish every morning. Each morning our back page will contain the *Daily Confusion*, the R/O Committee's guide to each day's events. Each morning *The Tech* will keep you informed with what you need to know here at MIT. Each morning *The Tech* will entertain you. And each morning *The Tech* will be distributed free.

We're inviting you to join us. Our doors will be open 24 hours a day during that week. Even if you don't think you're interested in newspaper publishing, stop by; there's much more to us than many people realize. We can even find a place for you to work with us if you want.

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Maybe that's why our most optimistic person blinked when he heard what we are going to do . . . and then said, "That sounds fantastic!"

The Tech

Scientific organizations attack Senate's DNA bill

By Mark James

Cries of undue restriction of scientific research and complaints about uncalled-for limits on the public health powers of local governments have greeted new legislation in Congress that would regulate recombinant DNA research.

This research, in which the genes of different species ranging from lower animals to man are linked to those of bacteria, has aroused controversy for over a year. Opponents of the research claim that new and possibly dangerous organisms might be created by this process. Experimenters maintain that there is little — if any — hazard involved and that the benefits to understanding the function of genes would be large, possibly including insights into cancer.

Two bills, one in the House of Representatives and one in the Senate, have been put forward. Both would create federal regulations which would supersede local rules unless the locality was granted an exemption under complex rules that differ between the two bills.

Several scientific organizations object to the independent federal regulatory commission that is proposed in the Senate bill, charging that it would create unnecessary red tape and restrict freedom of inquiry. Its backers say that the bill is not an attempt to dictate research.

Cambridge City Councilor David Clem, a sponsor of the Cambridge ordinance passed in February to regulate recombinant work, said that local regulations had been drafted in a "reasonable manner" and should not be "thrown out the window." He said that local regulations

were valuable in that they may require researchers to come before the public and explain their work on a local basis. "We've got to have an educated public," he declared.

The Inter-Society Council for Biology, which "comprises chief executive officers of seven professional organizations" in the health and biological sciences, has written a letter supporting the House bill, which is favored over the Senate version by many research groups as being less restrictive.

MIT's Assistant to the Chairman of the Corporation Walter Milne said that he has been following developments in Washington and talking to many of those acting in opposition to the Kennedy bill, but that MIT as an institution has not taken an official stand on the issue. "I'm not sure we ever would — that's not our style," he said.

The House bill, sponsored by Rep. Paul G. Rogers (D-Fla.) is similar in many respects to the Senate version, but would enforce regulations through local Biohazard Committees instead of the national commission.

Clem charged that the lobbying by scientific groups is a last ditch effort to minimize controls on the research, a "self-interest response."

He said the charge that the Senate bill would establish government controls on research similar to those in Nazi Germany and Stalinist Russia is a "gross overstatement."

The public has "learned from [its past] overreaction" to the hazards of the research, Clem said, and has made up "sound regulations" without "giving in to the Doomsdayers."

(SUBCOMMITTEE PRINT NO. 5)
JULY 25, 1977

Calendar No.
S. 1217

96TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

[Report No. 95-]

A BILL

To regulate activities involving recombinant deoxyribonucleic acid.

By Mr. Kennedy

ARMS 1 (Legislative Day, February 21), 1977

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Human Resources

JULY 1977

Reported with an amendment

Among those opposing tight regulations are 137 scientists who attended the 1977 Gordon Research Conference on Nucleic Acids. They stated that they were "concerned that legislative measures now under consideration by Congressional, state and local authorities will set up additional regulatory machinery so unwieldy and unpredictable as to inhibit severely the further development of research."

Included in the group who signed the Gordon letter were 11 MIT researchers: Professors of Biology Uttam Rajbhandary, Alexander Rich and Paul Schimmel, Associate Professor David Botstein, Assistant Professor Graham Walker, Postdoctoral Fellows Arnold Berk, Daphne Blumberg and J. Bert Flanagan, and Research Associates Eugene L. Brown, Joyce Hackman and Nadrian Seeman.

Currently, all research funded by the federal government must abide by guidelines established last year by the National Institutes of Health. These rules specify both physical and biological techniques intended to prevent the escape and survival of organisms used.

Almost all university research is controlled by these guidelines, but private commercial research is not.

MIT cancer experts say saccharin study is valid

By Mark James

The Canadian study linking saccharin to bladder cancer in rats is considered by many experts at MIT and elsewhere to be solid evidence that the substance is probably carcinogenic in man. Assistant Professor of Nutrition and Food Science William Thilly, a researcher on cancer-causing substances, told *The Tech* that there is "no question of the accuracy of the [Canadian] study" in which rats fed large doses of saccharin from before birth developed a much larger number of bladder tumors than a control group not fed the substance.

The Federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) cited this study in calling for a ban on the use of the substance, a ban that met with an immediate and strong outcry from diet product manufacturers and many private citizens.

The FDA was planning on amending the proposed ban to allow for the sale of saccharin as a drug, but it has delayed the entire ban in order to further study new evidence appearing to link sac-

charin with increased incidence of bladder tumors in humans, especially males.

Although he has not specifically studied the Canadian report, Associate Professor of Food and Nutrition Michael Archer, who has done research on several carcinogens, said that the common criticism that the Canadian study's dosage levels — which were five per cent of the rats' daily diet, the equivalent of 800 cans of diet soda per day for a human — was "not really a valid criticism." He maintained that the results could be extended to estimate the effects of much lower doses.

The FDA was required to seek the ban under Delaney Amendment to the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act which declares that "no additive shall be deemed to be safe if it is found to induce cancer when ingested by man or animal."

Since the announcement of the possible ban, this clause has become controversial, despite the FDA's claim that they would have proposed the ban even without the Delaney clause.

(Please turn to page 13)

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A look behind Musical Theater Lab thriving in DC Life's pictures

By Kathy Hardis

Editor's note: Associate Arts Editor Kathy Hardis '78 lives in the Washington area, and has filed this summer report.

deadline. The magazine frequently practiced the art of overkill by sending a dozen photographers and twice that number of reporters and researchers to cover a single story. Yet this extravagance in both money and manpower made *Life* what it was. When budget cutbacks eliminated this kind of "wastefulness," *Life* was no longer *Life* and after the year-end issue in 1972, it went the way of the other picture magazines.

That was the *Life* deals with the workings and happenings of the publication. It takes a look at what went on behind the scenes: how the members bought up a favorite restaurant because it was about to close down, the frequent staff parties, the practical jokes, as well as the "children's hour," and football games and other forms of violent play in the office. The book both amazes and amuses. Hamblin combines the sheer daring and gall of the magazine and its staff with aspects of the personalities of those involved and the fun they had as their hairbrained stunts unfolded.

Dora Hamblin's book is an interesting chronicle. It makes light and enjoyable reading — reminding one that fact is not only stranger, but often also a lot funnier than fiction. The book is, in a way, a history of a publication that was the best in its field, a field that has largely faded out of existence.

By reading the book, one experiences the magazine, getting caught up in the activity and becoming a part of the family which produced *Life*. A possible flaw in this book is that at times Hamblin assumes that the reader is as fascinated with a certain person as she was, but this problem is relatively insignificant. You really hope that the photographer will get his picture, the reporter will get his story, or the packet will make its deadline, and you are moved when the magazine folds.

At last, after many years of artistic decline, the American Musical Theatre finally has hope for survival.

This revitalization of one of the country's most popular artforms is fostered by an innovative idea called the Musical Theatre Lab. The lab, currently situated at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., was created by the Stuart Ostrow Foundation to "help replenish the treasury of the American Musical Theatre." Included among the Foundation's Board of Directors are such musical theatre greats as Bob Fosse (director of *Pippin*) and Stephan Sondheim, (creator of *A Little Night Music*).

The lab presents a series of "workshop" productions of new and original musicals, staged in unabridged form and cast with professional actors. The physical production — lights, sets, costumes, props, and orchestration — is kept to a minimum; the Lab seeks to "create a flexible rehearsal atmosphere where playwrights, choreographers, and directors can experiment artistically."

The performances of these musicals are free and open to the public. Audience response to each work gives a general indication of the musical's potential for success, and each piece can be sufficiently revised and rewritten before launching it into the real theatrical world.

Followers of current Broadway musicals realize that successful shows are few and far between. Over the years, there have been many more bombs than hits. During the heyday of the American Musical Theatre, writers and lyricists were given ample opportunity to develop their styles, to learn from experience. Nowadays a

failure on Broadway is costly in terms of both money and careers. The economic factors which once motivated the musical are now destroying it; the risks involved in producing a lavish, full-scale musical are too great. Consequently, the quality and quantity of musicals have decreased, and the general state-of-the-art has reached an abysmal low.

The Musical Theatre Lab intends to create an atmosphere free from any devastating commercial pressure. Therefore a tacit agreement exists among

drama critics that no reviews of these shows are to be published; to review these "works in progress" would be contrary to the purpose of the Lab.

The existence of the Musical Theatre Lab does not guarantee that the quality of current musicals will automatically improve. But now that public taste and opinion will indicate the direction and styles of the shows, which won't initially be subjected to the sometimes caustic pens of the critics, it is fair to say that at last, there is hope for the American musical theatre.

C, S, & N back together again

(Continued from page 7)

impressive cut.

Besides writing the lyrics to guest keyboardist Craig Doerge's song "Shadow Captain," Crosby contributed only two songs to the album, but both are good. "Anything at All" is a slow cut very well sung by Crosby with imaginative harmonies from Stills and Nash. "In My Dreams" is a gentle daydream-like song, and one of Crosby's best.

Beyond the individual songs and performances, however, the harmony of Crosby, Stills, and Nash is what really distinguishes this album from the solo works or anything

else. These three men perform vocal acrobatics on "Cathedral" and on Stills' excellent "I Give You Give Blind," and in general show a unique vocal finesse.

As for Neil Young, it is perhaps better that he didn't take part. The trio has a type of unity that would be diluted by the presence of someone like Young, whose musical ideas are so much different from theirs and whose ego would again endanger the group.

At least for now, Crosby, Stills, and Nash are together again, and the music they've made shows that they should stay that way.



ARMY ROTC



Lt. Tom Strat, '77, Course VI-3

An ROTC Scholarship winner, Tom entered MIT in September of 1973. Tom is a member of DKE, played in the MIT orchestra, was cox'n for the Heavyweight Varsity Crew, and commanded the Army ROTC Cadet Battalion during his second year. He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant, Regular Army in the Military Intelligence Branch in June 77. Tom was awarded an Army Fellowship and will be on active duty here at MIT pursuing a graduate degree in Computer Science. As a Fellowship student, Tom receives full Army pay (\$12,000/year). He will be assigned to Fort Huachaca, Arizona upon graduation.



Lt. Bill Sweet, '77, Course X

Bill entered MIT with the class of '77 on a four-year Army Scholarship. A member and rush captain of Phi Delta Theta, Bill was captain of MIT's Lightweight Varsity Crew, and served as Operations Officer for the Army ROTC Cadet Battalion. Commissioned in the Field Artillery, Regular Army, he was awarded an Army Fellowship to MIT in the field of Engineering Operations. Upon completion of his studies at MIT, Bill and his wife Cindy look forward to a 3 year assignment in Germany.

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Committee plans Dean's Office forum

By Mark J. Munkacsy

Editor's note: Mark Munkacsy, as Chairman of The Tech, is a member of the Dean's Forum.

A Dean's Office planning committee approved last week the creation of a forum to discuss and resolve Institute-wide problems, and recommended that the first topic be MIT's current policies pertaining to evening classes.

The twelve-member planning committee included members of the Dean for Student Affairs Office, faculty, and students — both undergraduate and graduate. The committee, chaired by Assistant Dean for Student Affairs Holly Heine '67, has been attempting to set goals and define a viable structure for the forum.

"The real key to success... is going to be the information dissemination," according to Douglas McLeod '77, one of the members of the planning committee.

The planning committee felt that this was especially important when issues were tackled for which no solution exists. Early internal memos among planning committee members indicate that possible forum topics could be so philosophical that the question raised is not "What is the solution?" but rather, "Is there a problem or even a potential problem?"

The planning committee foresees the forum tackling two or three different issues each term.



Mike Garcia

Assistant Dean for Student Affairs Holly Heine is one of the members of the Dean's forum organizing committee.

Each topic would involve two meetings of the forum. The first meeting would include background discussion, and would serve to define the

problem. Invited to this meeting would be representatives from any Institute offices with an interest in the topic being discussed. (The tentative invitation list to the initial evening classes session includes representatives from the Registrar's Office, Schedules Office, and the Committee on Educational Policy.)

The follow-up meeting, held several weeks later, will enable the forum's 25 members to bring back student and faculty reaction to the first meeting. At this time, the planning committee hopes, the forum, together with the representatives from involved Institute offices, will work out a solution to the problem being discussed.

According to Heine the forum will not hand out decisions. She sees problem resolutions being

made by the people affected by them. One member of the planning committee said that the discussion is far more important than the decision, and that the group wants people — especially students — to understand the tradeoffs involved in many of the problems MIT faces.

The planning committee is currently selecting the members of the forum — as well as searching for a name for it. "We have to pick a name other than 'forum,'" explained Heine, who feels that the word 'forum' implies a more amorphous structure than the planning committee intends.

Dean for Student Affairs Carola Eisenberg's proposed solution to the problem of the name for the forum is to "buy an extra ice cream for the one who comes up with a good name."

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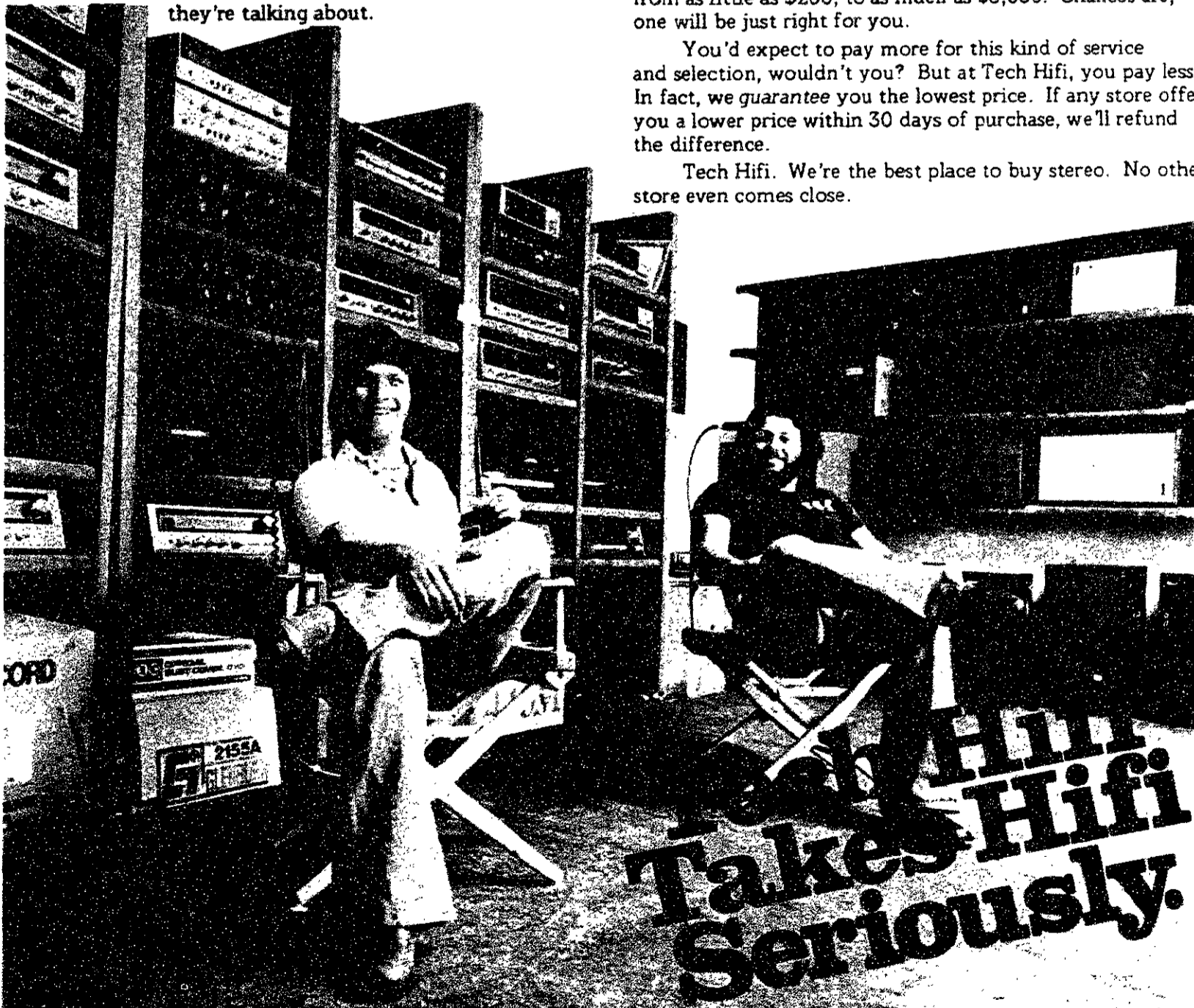
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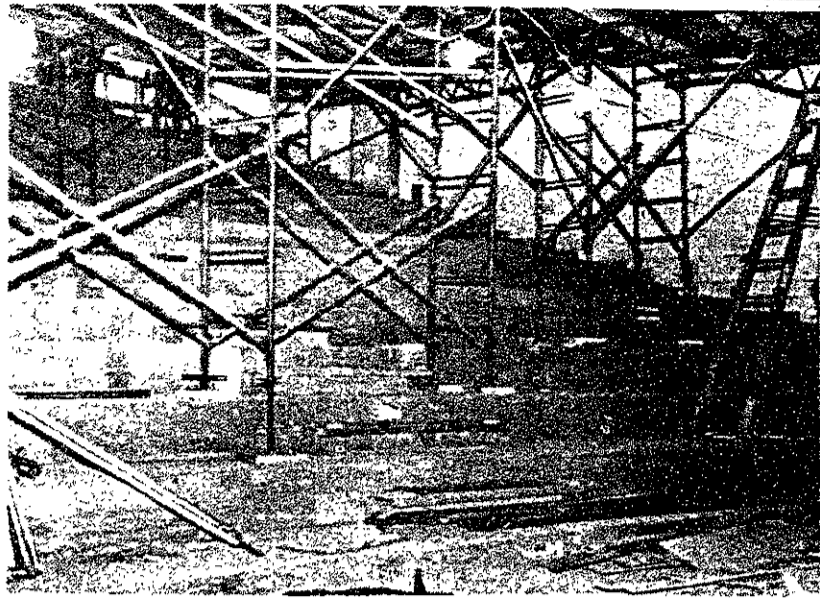
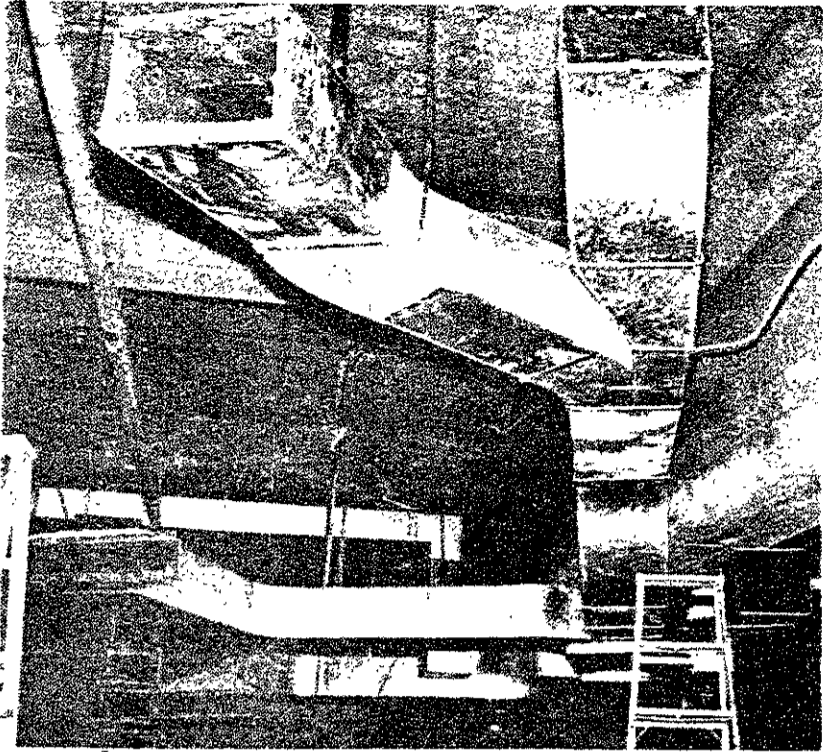
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MIT's second-largest lecture hall, Room 10-250 (Huntington Hall), is being remodeled as part of a new alumni complex. Campus architect Harry Portnoy said that the hall should be ready for use by the first week in September.

Four students disciplined for *thursday* sex article

By David B. Koretz

Four students involved with the MIT community newspaper *thursday* were disciplined by the Committee on Discipline (COD) as a result of their involvement with the controversial article "Consumer Guide to MIT Men."

At the end of May, the COD suspended Scott Batterman '77, Features Editor of *thursday*, for three months; placed Susan Gilbert '78 and Roxanne Ritchie, co-authors of the article, on formal probation (notation on academic records for ten years); and placed John Roselli '77, Editor-in-Chief of *thursday*, on informal probation (no notation on academic record).

The article, which was published in *thursday* on April 28, 1977, was a sex survey by two MIT women of 36 men they claimed to have slept with. President Jerome B. Wiesner published a vehement criticism of the article and of *thursday* in *Tech Talk* the following week, calling for an Association of Student Activities investigation of the organization and a COD hearing of complaints against the students.

The charges of invasion of privacy and of violating community norms were brought to the COD by the Dean for Student Affairs on behalf of those students who made formal complaints to the Dean's Office.

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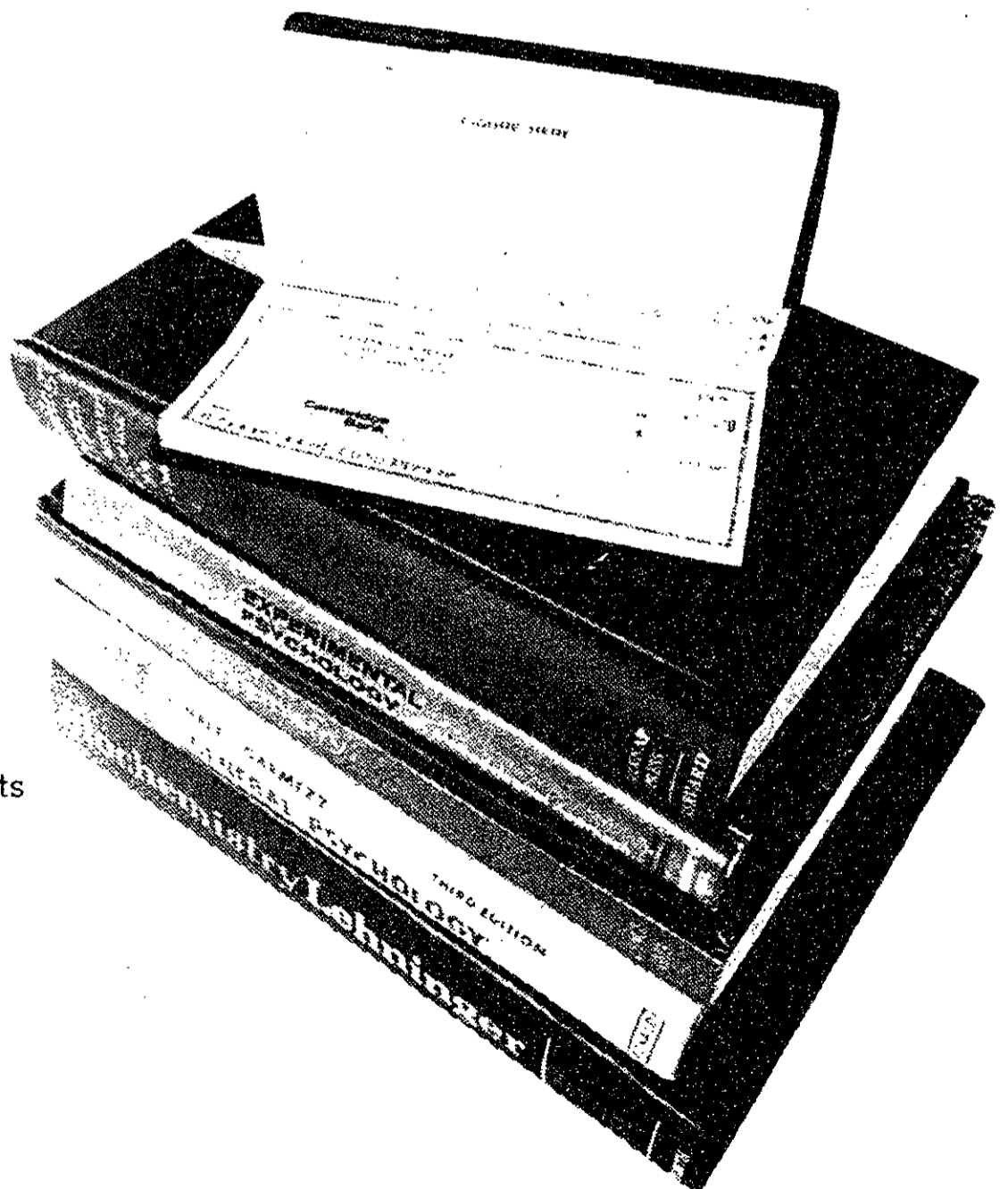
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R/O past . . .

These scenes should be familiar to anyone who was ever a freshman at MIT. R/O week is an unusual time for the Institute — for a few days, a higher priority is given to people and fun than to academics and research. Over 1,000 freshmen are welcomed by dormitory, fraternity and Institute-wide R/O committees, activity leaders, and other people interested in the class of '81, these scenes will be new to you, but soon you may end up in pictures very similar to these. Best wishes for a successful and happy R/O week.



Mark James



Rich Compton



Changes in meal plans will carry reduced costs

(Continued from page 3)
 Brammer asserted that Dining Service could "make money" on the system if we wanted to, but that's "not our purpose." To do so would involve lowering quality and keeping fewer halls open during hours, as well as other measures, he said.
 Commenting on the financial problems faced by the Commons program, Brammer states that our aim is to break even. But our goals are set eighteen months ahead . . . and you really can't know too much about what's going to happen.

Small sports fare well at MIT

(Continued from page 16)
 Frustrating year, winning only the Miami Cup from weak Columbia teams and their records are women's basketball (5-13), golf (1-59), men's basketball (1-13), MIT at all levels, we do expect to have national caliber teams but sometimes we get them. It depends on the people who come here each year. This fall could be one of them.

Random Hall set for fall

(Continued from page 1)
 That for Baker House's smallest triples and even with charges added for more than minimal desk service it should still be so. "It's near everything. All of the dorms on campus are in the middle of nowhere," Fernandez declared, and as Browning added that "individuals are more closely than we did with the New House structure," he added. On the other hand, the facilities are not on a par with New House. Browning admitted that there is "not a lot of common space" and "The opportunity to start a new dorm is inviting and the price is too." Jose Fernandez '79, a Vardebedian House spokesman indicated. The \$900 average rent is the lowest on campus except making a decision.



Random Hall will soon undergo minor renovations so that it will be ready to house students in the fall.

Profits defend lab results

(Continued from page 9)
 Thilly said that, although there is a need for better systems for determining the hazards of substances to humans, the Delaney clause "has worked very well" in the absence of such methods. The amendment is "on the side of caution," according to Archer, who said that the tendency toward caution was good but that the House version of the bill has been delayed until the studies mandated in the proposed House bill are completed.

Hyatt uses Westgate parking

(Continued from page 1)
 Crew also had a streak and finished the season at 4-14. Crew also had a streak and finished the season at 4-14. Crew also had a streak and finished the season at 4-14.

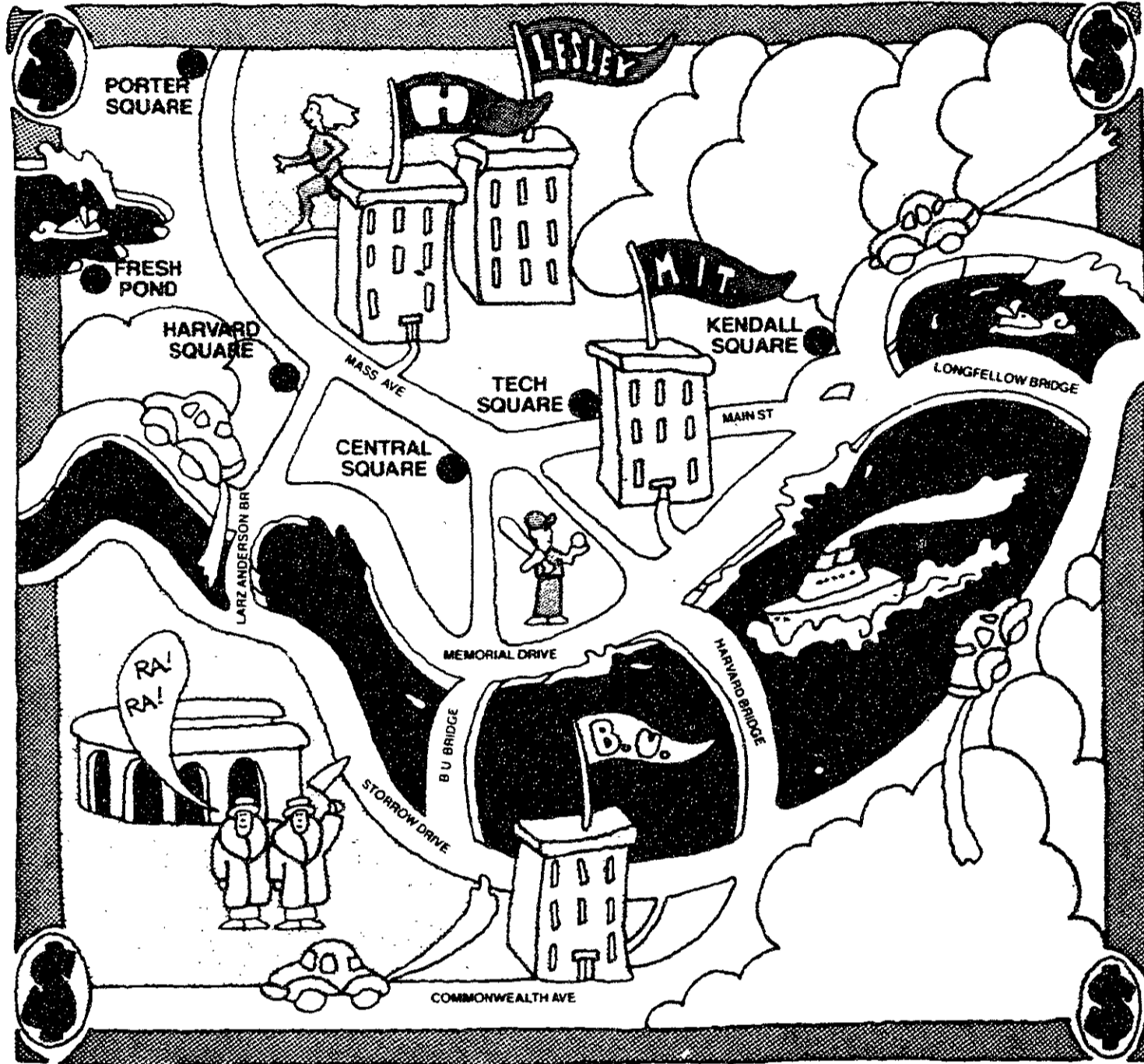
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sports cont.

For almost everyone, sports are a part of MIT

(Continued from page 16)

even encounter one of the world's championship frisbee players. Undoubtedly, the most impressive thing is the sheer number of people outside enjoying themselves.

If this same individual came during the winter, the situation would be somewhat different. Hopefully bundled up in a warm coat and gloves, braced against sub-zero winds, the first encounter will be with the old, dilapidated ice rink, outdoors of course.

If unfamiliar with the northern climate he will certainly take the fact that there is a group of people batting a small, black object around with a stick in this weather to be a symptom of too much studying. Not true. These people are perfectly sane. Well, almost. Ah, at least a little bit. There is a story that during a hockey game a puck once broke in two when it was dropped to the ice. After recovering from the initial shock, this wanderer may notice something else peculiar about these people, if it is C-League intramurals. Some of these people can't even skate, much less play hockey!

Before our visitor develops an acute case of frostbite, he walks into the duPont gymnasium and the Rockwell Cage, just next to the rink. There he sees much the same congestion as he would have seen on Briggs Field during the summer. Basketball and volleyball courts are in heavy use in duPont, and frisbee players, joggers, and maybe some spring sport players getting in shape occupy the area around the varsity basketball court in the Cage.

His final stop, summer or winter, might be the indoor Alumni Pool, used for varsity and intramural swimming and water polo and for individuals or groups just swimming for enjoyment. The same building also houses squash and handball courts. Along the river are the sailing pavillion and the boathouse.

Up until now, I have intentionally mentioned only one aspect of MIT sports, that of mass participation. This is certainly a part of MIT athletics, a part which many of the NCAA Division I schools, among others, would do well to pay more attention to. Schools all too often replace the active participation of many students with the participation of a few scholarship athletes and relegate the activity of spectatorship to the rest of the univer-

sity community.

However, there is another side of MIT sports, on all levels, the competitive side. There was a long article in *Sports Illustrated* two years ago which spoke of the mass participation in sports at MIT. Unfortunately, this otherwise excellent article chose to largely ignore the competitive aspect. It implied a striving for mediocrity. In fact, on the varsity level, and even in many intramurals, there is rather intense competition.

I still remember the C-League hockey playoffs last winter. Probably no one on the team could have played A-League intramurals, far less varsity; and a few could only skate in the broadest definition of the word. Despite this, these games were as competitive, albeit on a very different level, as many varsity games. Another event which comes to mind is an A-League hockey matchup every year between Lambda Chi Alpha and Eji/Baker which consistently gives those who referee it cause for extreme exertion.

Of course, this isn't true with all intramurals. Sometimes C- and B-League is played as a joke. But just as often they are taken quite seriously. Everyone gets to play, but when they play they are expected to take the game seriously.

Actually, many of the varsity sports have very good records, as can be seen from the sports wrapup which appears in this issue. It is only in the sports for which other schools recruit extensively that MIT teams rarely have respectable seasons. In the less-followed sports it often does quite well. Example: the pistol team is the best in the country after the service academies.

One of the more unusual aspects of varsity sports here is that if you walked up to the average student he could tell you next to nothing about them. Varsity sports, even those doing well, draw few spectators. Often an intramural game will have a bigger crowd. The lacrosse team on a sunny afternoon is lucky if it draws three dozen spectators. The Rugby team might not get any in a downpour.

What is the point of all this? Participate. Despite the statistics, many, possibly even the majority of students, don't really take full advantage of MIT's sports program. They hide behind the often thin veil of the excuse "I have to study." There is an old adage that work expands to fill the time allotted to it. People who

participate in sports, or for that matter any activity, simply waste less time as a rule. Spending time on things other than problem sets and studying is beneficial in the long run. It creates a more

rounded, actually better educated, person. Even at a high pressure school like MIT — no, particularly at a high pressure school like MIT — it is very important for an individual to learn

quickly that there is more to education than textbooks.

The Greeks had the right idea. They considered education to be the training of both the mind and the body. Let us not forget this.

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Twenty Chimneys

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cafeteria service providing breakfast, sandwiches at lunch, and complete meals at lunch & dinner

School Year Hours, Monday through Friday only, effective September 12	
Breakfast 7:30 to 10:00	Continental Breakfast 10:00 to 11:00
Lunch 11:00 to 2:00	Dinner 5:00 to 7:00

Pritchett Lounge

on the second floor, above Morss Hall
snack bar serving hamburgers, French fries, lountain specialties

R/O Week Hours, effective September 6 through 9		
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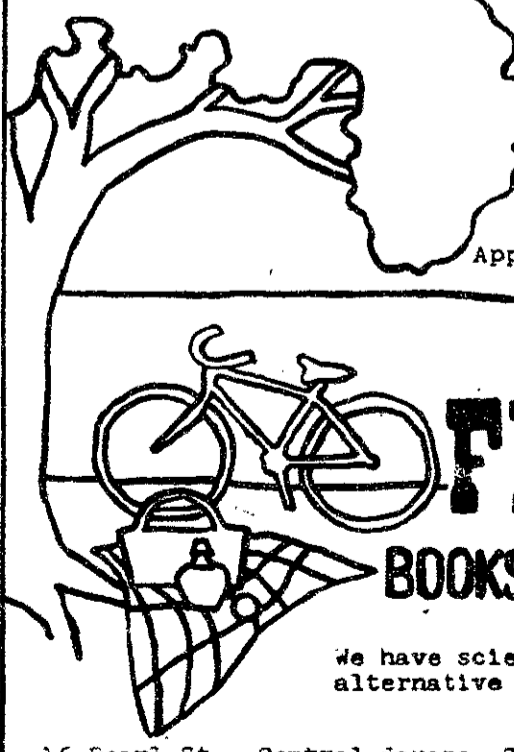
Baker House Dining Hall
MacGregor Dining Hall

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Lunch 11:15 to 1:30	Dinner 5:00 to 6:30

Board Plan Options

Information on various Board Plan Options will be available during R/O Week. You may sign up for one of the options at any of the dining facilities, and you may take any meal in your contract at any of the four main dining halls (Lobdell, Morss, Baker, MacGregor).

If you have any questions, call the Dining Service at x3-2718



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MIT Sports: A banner year

By Tom Curtis

MIT sports teams had a banner year in 1976-77, amassing a 185-164-2 overall record. Many teams captured regional titles while others had their first winning season in many years.

The most outstanding team was the women's volleyball squad which, in its first year as a varsity sport, went undefeated in 18 regular season matches. Then the team swept through the Massachusetts Division II State Championships for the second year in a row. The climax of the season came late in November when the team captured the Eastern regional title, thereby receiving a bid to the Small College National Championships in Malibu, California.

MIT's running teams also amassed excellent records this year. Led by senior Frank Richardson's numerous record-breaking performances, the cross-country, indoor track, and outdoor track teams compiled an overall record of 18-3.

Beaten only by Lowell University, cross-country had a 7-1 record, its best since 1968. They did well in many tournaments this year, taking fourth in the Greater Boston Championships and the Codfish Bowl, eleventh in the New England Championships, 20th in the IC4A's and 28th in the Division III National Championships. In the IC4A's in November, Richardson became the first MIT harrier to take top honors.

The indoor track team also wound up one meet short of an undefeated season, losing only to Bowdoin, in the next to last meet of the season. Richardson and Reid von Borstel '78 both shattered school records this year. Von Borstel broke the MIT high jump mark three times, eventually putting the record at 6'7 $\frac{3}{4}$ " In post-season competition, Richardson set new marks in the two-mile and three-mile runs. In the Easterns, he snapped the nine-year-old MIT two-mile record with a time of 8:54.4, and in the IC4A's, he became the first Tech runner to go three miles in under 14:00. His 13:48.96 clocking was good for a sixth place finish in the race.

The outdoor track team completed its season with a 3-1 record. Again, Richardson was the key man, setting an outdoor three-mile record (13:43.0) to accompany his indoor mark.

Perhaps MIT's most competitive team on the national level was men's fencing. After a 10-3 regular season, the fencers went on to win their eighth straight New England title and place sixth and therefore All-American in the NCAA Championships at Notre Dame. The most outstanding individual performance was junior Mark Smith's first place finish in the Eastern Foil Championships. Going undefeated in the finals, Smith led MIT to a second in the team competition.

The women fencers also did very well, tallying an 11-6 record.

The team finished fifth in the New England Championships and sent its captain Judy Austin '77 to the National Championships.

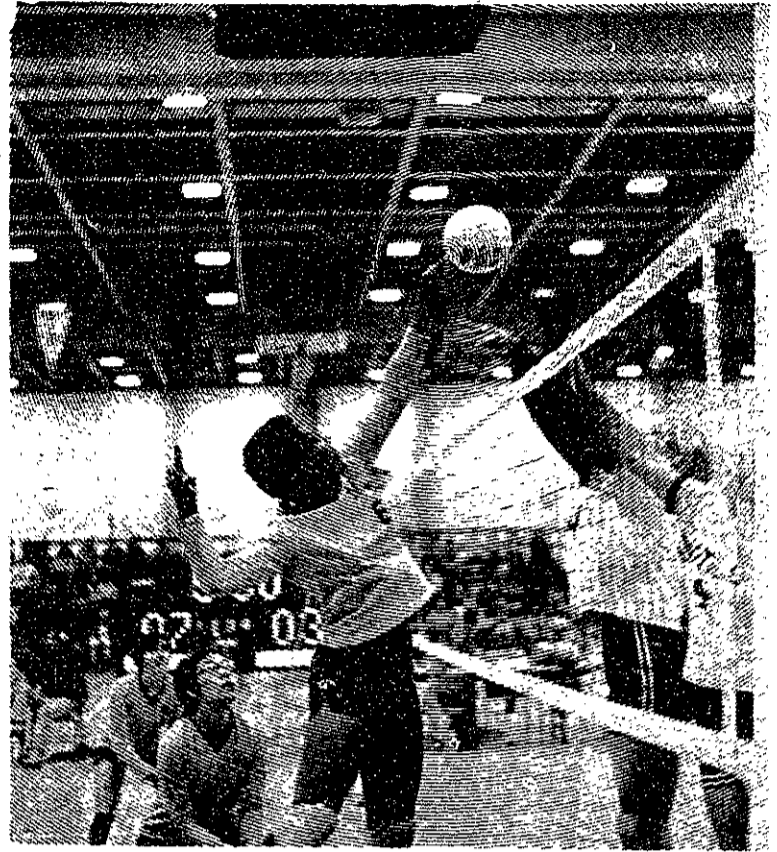
The ever-strong MIT pistol team took first in the New England sectional after a 6-3 season. Led by captain Dave Schaller '78, the team set a National Junior Air Pistol team record early in the season.

The men's swimming team also competed at the national level, finishing eleventh in the New England Championships and sending six swimmers to the Division III National Championships. Preston Vorlicek '79, Rick Ehrlich '77, and Bob Hone '79 earned All-American honors. Ehrlich and Hone finished tenth and eleventh respectively in diving; Vorlicek took eighth in the 200-yard breaststroke. Vorlicek and freshman John Dieken set numerous school records to pace the team to a 7-4 record.

MIT sailing teams also earned several distinctions. The men placed second in the New England Fall Championships and took first in the Greater Boston Dinghy Championships this spring. The women won three regattas in the fall.

Several teams had their best seasons in many years. Hockey had an 11-7-1 record for its first winning year since the early 60's while lacrosse's 8-4 was the team's best mark since the late 60's. The women's gymnastics team, in its second season, posted an improved record. Skiing won a

(Please turn to page 13)



Mark James

MIT Sports? You bet

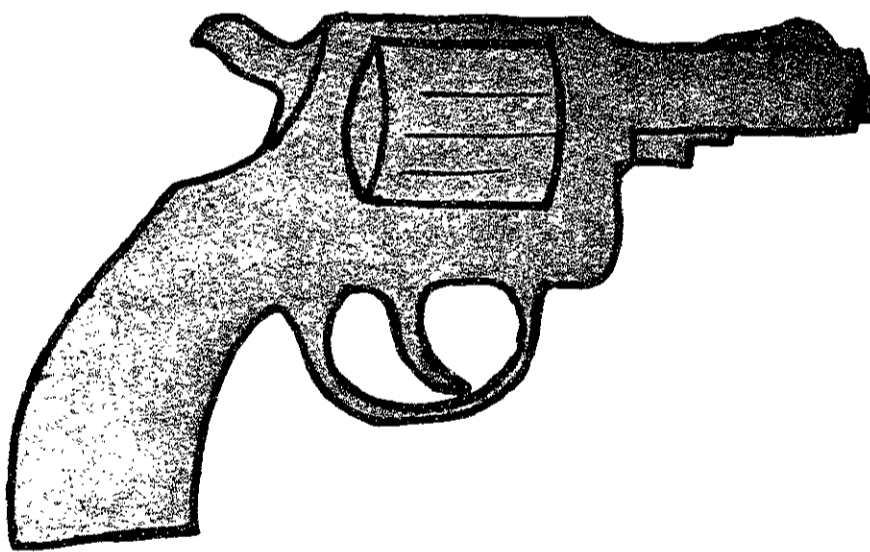
By Gordon Haff

A person wanders onto the MIT campus and is immediately immersed in a concrete, glass, and metal maze. He is swallowed up, perhaps awed by the reputation of the place, the knowledge of the discoveries which have taken place in these buildings. If he approaches through the Great Court, he is met with the names of great scientists of the past indelibly etched into the concrete of the walls which surround him. In this state of mind, athletics and

sports seem out of place, somehow inappropriate.

If this person's beginning view of the campus is during the warmer months, he might well first encounter the sports program in the sound of tennis balls being swatted back and forth. Or he may find it by walking across Briggs Field where countless softball and football games are in progress and frisbees float through the warm, humid air. On the Kresge Oval he may

(Please turn to page 15)



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