It's official; Carter nominates Press

By William Lasner

Professor of Earth and Planetary Science Frank Press has been nominated to the Science Advisor to the President Carter. The long-awaited action on the science post came Friday when Carter made official a Feb. 12 report in The Washington Post that the 53-year-old geophysicist, who seldom agreed upon, these grades bad?

By Mark James

The data recently presented by the Ad Hoc Committee on Grading does demonstrate the phenomenon of grade inflation, but it shows that this phenomenon occurred mainly in the 1960's, not the 1970's. Average grades of seniors were essentially level from 1943 through 1960. In 1961, for reasons that are hotly debated and seldom agreed upon, these grades began heading steadily upward, peaking in the early seventies. The economic discussion of "grade inflation" also became popular about this time. While the general awareness of the "problem" may be part of the reason for the recent writing on grading.

Another part of the report shows a wide discrepancy between different departments in grading. The percentage of A's recorded varies from 31 to 59 departmental names were omitted from the report. A similar variation is inherent in any department cumulative averages.

While grade inflation is not unique to MIT; the figures in a study done by the University of California at Berkeley show that the increase in the percentage of A's given our rivals most other schools studied.

Where do all these figures leave the student? It seems that时髦 students are interested in differentiating more between students who do well and students who do not.

Students, MIT officials talk with Pei Nevelson

By Mark James

Representative of the MIT administration and a student committee met Friday with Pei, Nevelson last Wednesday in New York City to discuss the controversy surrounding the placement of Nevelson's sculpture "Transporter Horizons."

Roger Powell '77, chairman of the committee of students, told Pei that Nevelson considered the placement of her sculpture to be a part of a campus with bookshelves, and that she was upset that her art had been involved in what she considers to be an internal decision at MIT.

According to Powell, she told the group that the painting of the sculpture was below the level of behavior to be expected of MIT, and MIT students.

Pei, chief architect of the Ralph W. Landau Chemical Engineering Building, told the group that she was told by MIT that the sculpture could be placed anywhere within a specified region around the building. This area included part of area between the East Campus parallels.

According to Powell, Pei selected the site near East Campus because it lay along a corridor that is being developed around the sculpture.

Powell said that the sculpture's location had been chosen before Nevelson was commissioned to do the sculpture. She said that Pei was not pleased with the idea of laying it. This student committee was formed last fall during the controversy over the sculpture and the placement. Many students, especially from East Campus, expressed their dislike for "Transporter Horizons." In covering the sculpture with different colors.

At the time it was rumored that the sculpture, being an artistically and emotionally provocative students for delivering the sculpture, Pei said that she and Pei had agreed about the location.

"There are still students who are upset about the sculpture and its placement near East Campus, but that there may be fewer students upset now that there were last fall."

The sculpture was painted orange on the night of March 14. Those who painted it were not aware of the placement. They worked with Pei and the artist according to Powell.

"I do not feel that it is likely that this sculpture will be moved," Powell said, explaining that the choices for a new site were greatly limited by the restrictions that Pei near the chemical Engineering Building and that it be in a prominent location for viewing.

Pei

Present on the New York trip were: Powell, East Campus President Jason Tong '73, Jonathan Green '75, Elaine Riker '73, Jon Rizzi '73, West Campus House Master Adrian Housman, Vice President for Administration and John Wayne, Chairman of the C.V. Dreyfus Fordham, Dean for Student Affairs, Richard Rosenberg, and Joel Osher, Executive Officer of the President's Office.

Please turn to page 5
NEW ENGLAND SPEED READING OPENS IN BOSTON

INNOVATIVE TECHNIQUES AND STUDENT DISCOUNTS

New England Reading Lab is offering their famous Speed Reading Course to a limited number of qualified people here in the Boston area. The average person who completes this course can read 5—8X faster, and with substantially improved comprehension and better concentration.

This famous course has taught many thousands of people to read over 1,000 words per minute with ability to understand and retain what they have read much more effectively. Average graduates can read most novels in less than 1 hour. In rare instances, speeds of up to 20X faster have been documented.

For complete details about this famous speed reading course, be sure to attend one of the free 1 hour orientation lectures that have been scheduled. These lectures are open to the public, above age 13 (persons under 18 should be accompanied by a parent, if possible). The course will be explained in complete detail, including class schedules, instruction procedures and a tuition that is much less than similar courses.

These meetings will be held in the conference rooms of the
• SHERATON—BOSTON HOTEL, 39 Dalton St. in Boston,
• HOWARD JOHNSON'S MOTOR LODGE, 777 Memorial Dr. in Cambridge,
• HOWARD JOHNSON'S MOTOR LODGE, 5 Howard Johnson's Plaza/
  Boston St. in Dorchester, and the
• HOLIDAY INN OF NEWTON, 399 Grove St.

at the following times:
   Wednesday, March 16 at 6:30pm and again at 8:30pm,
   Thursday, March 17 at 7:30pm only,
   Friday, March 18 at 7:30pm only,
   Saturday, March 19 at 2:30pm only,
   Sunday, March 20 at 2:30pm and again at 7:30pm,
   Monday, March 21 at 6:30pm and again at 8:30pm,
   Tuesday, March 22 at 6:30pm and again at 8:30pm,
   Wednesday, March 23 TWO FINAL MEETINGS at 6:30pm and 8:30pm.

Please Note: There will not be meetings held Friday, March 18 nor Sunday, March 20 at the HOLIDAY INN OF NEWTON.

Classes are limited and places will be filled on a first come—first serve basis only. Be sure to attend the earliest meeting possible to insure a class place. Group rates are available upon request.
(Continued from page 1)
(dent would have to do more work for his grade. This is a result that many faculty want, but many students fear. These students think that the pressure exerted on students is already enough.

This is not the only argument against deflation, however. Setting fixed standards for the number of A’s given out for all courses would not allow the recognition of true differences in work load between subjects. Also, students would benefit by avoiding severely graded courses.

Graduating Committee Chairman Zenon S. Saratcos also expressed the concern that legislating grade percentages would infringe upon academic freedom; instead the committee advocates the use of voluntary measures such as setting a target for grade ratios.

The committee and many faculty are saying that they want to push students to higher levels of performance using grades as the prodd. They don’t believe that being at MIT is necessarily a good reason for getting an A. They do believe that getting an A is a good reason for learning.

The L. Austin Kelly II Prize for Excellence in Humantarian Scholarship for 1976-77 will be awarded in Anthropology, Archeology, History, Literary Studies, and Musicology. Any full time undergraduate who has not previously won an eligible and should submit a unified piece of work more than 3000 words. For more information, contact the Committee XXI officer, 14N-301, 8-4446.

Area residents are urged to recycle all aluminum from the Reynolds Aluminum Recycling Company. Aluminum beverage cans and other clean household aluminum products are worth one cent on the spot when returned at the mobile aluminum recycling unit which will be at the Reynolds Aluminum Recycling Co., Tiverton Road, Rte. Newton Upper Falls, from 9-10 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, and at the Ellers Market, E. Andover Branch Street, site of lot, on Wednesday, March 23 from 11 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The Undergraduate Association General Assembly will meet at 9 p.m. tonight in the West Lounge, second floor student Center.

Nominations for the Gold Award in athletics will be accepted until the week of April 4. The Gold Award acknowledges continuous outstanding contributions to student athletics; nominations should be made in writing by a student. Nominations should be either delivered to Office 7-f105, x3-362 or be submitted to an MIT member of the Committee on Athletics, Room 7-f105, x3-362. The deadline is Friday April 4.

The members of the Committee on Grading would like to extend a general invitation to the MIT community to send notes to the Committee on their thoughts and suggestions. Recommendations and thoughts regarding the issue of grade inflation and the pass-fail system may be submitted to any member of the committee. The Committee, composed of Professors Robert C. Ammon, Thomas J. Giesy, J. K. Melcher, William M. Suter, Louis Goldberg, and Richard Zare, will be available to discuss the problem with students, faculty, and friends of MIT.

Faculty members who are interested in teaching an Undergraduate Seminar should contact the Undergraduate Seminar Office, Room 7-f101, x3-362 as soon as possible.

Nominations are invited for the James M. Murphy Award to be given to an Outstanding employee at the Awards Convocation on May. The Award was established in 1975 as a memorial to Mr. Murphy for his immeasurable contribution to community life at the Institute. It will be given to an employee whose service and loyalty exemplify the kind of individual and dedicated service, especially with regard to students. Nominations may be in the form of a short letter and will be considered by the committee.

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Grade deflation: serious error

At a time when the pressure on MIT students is constantly increasing, we feel that the concerted effort by the faculty to lower cumulative averages would be a serious mistake. MIT is a unique institution of its kind. By its very existence, the initiative and the responsibility resides with the students. This autonomy is a privilege we have been enjoying since 1861. We believe it is important that the faculty not use their status as an authority to begin imposing standards from above to dictate the performance of our students.

The administration claims to have made a strong commitment to extracurricular activities and sports, but increasing the pressure on students by stifling the grading system would seriously endanger this crucial part of MIT life. The drive to learn must come from within; any attempt to impose regulations from without will be counter-productive. With or without grades, there would be no lack of reward for those who display excellence at MIT.

We urge the faculty not to deliberately bog down the grading system. Students who would be forced by this action to sacrifice all of their time to the pursuit of high grades may have to work in the short run, but they must inevitably lose. And so MIT...
opinion cont.

Early Program history positive

(Continued from page 4)

...charges. The Committee evaluated the Program favorably, recommending that the Program be substantially reorganized and removed from the Humanities Department.

Feld's arms talk clarified

In the Editor:

I do not wish to engage in a repeat of my March 3rd Physics Colloquium in rebuttal of Ron Feieenblatt's letter in last Tuesday's The Tech. I heard your talk. Since this response might then not have been necessary.

However, I did not simply propose a "unilateral new arms deployment moratorium." The proposal was for a mutual, reciprocated moratorium, to be started by a unilateral declaration on our part, but whose continuation (after a reasonable period) would be dependent on reciprocated termination on the part of the Soviet Union.

It is important to distinguish between straight unilateral actions (referred to by arms control opponents as "unilateral disarmament") and the use of unilateral steps as a technique for initiating a process of reciprocated arms reductions by mutual example.

Bernard T. Feld
Professor of Physics
March 17, 1977

Men's and women's casual sport shoe in soft, natural Canadian leathers. Designed for barefoot comfort with foam-padded collar, tongue and insole. Now with a brand new sole that makes the comfort of Roots one of the nicest feelings on two feet. Roots. Sold only at Roots shops. $33.50

Get out and Pitch In!

National College "Pitch In!" Week sponsored by Budweiser and ABC Radio is April 18 - 22.

All you have to do is get out and Pitch In! Get your fraternity, sorority or organization to pick up or paint up on campus or in your community. Then document these efforts with snapshots, film, press coverage, reports or diaries.

Pitch In!

Your group can really aid the community, and the best projects are eligible for some terrific educational awards and commemo-

ратive "Pitch In!" T-shirts. So please, get out and Pitch In! Help make this year's campaign the best ever.

For more information: Contact your Dean of Student Activities or write to "Pitch In!" Week, Dept. C, ABC Radio, 1330 Avenue of Americas, New York, NY 10019.

Music of the Ancient Regime

October 24

for College Age Adults

College Mental Health Center
Located in Prudential Center
For information call 262-3315

10 MINUTES OF YOUR TIME COULD SAVE A FRIEND'S LIFE.

1077 Mass. Ave
Cambridge
Record review

A fusion of Beck and Hammer

By Claudia Perry

Fans of the left Beck-Lyn Hammer collab-oration should not be disappointed with this album, which was recorded during their concert at the Music Hall in October. The album contains the best moments of the evening. A refreshing change from most live albums, it is well recorded and impeccably edited.

Still, the album has a problem. One of the most enjoyable parts of an evening with Beck and Hammer is the way they pace a concert. Hammer, in the role of producer, seems to have a poor sense of his own work. By detracting the order of the songs, continually lost. Songs that were performed halfway through the night are inexplicably presented at the beginning of the disc.

The best example of this middle-headedness comes with the first cut on the second side. Hammer's "Darkness Earth at Search of a Sun" is an impressive concert opener. Hamper builds the song magnificently, culminating in Beck's entrance. By placing the song where it is now, it destroys the effect that was created by the pair's improvement as the evening progressed.

"Free-Way Jam," the opening cut on the disc, begins with Beck and Hamper trading traffic noises. Instead of leaping in and strutting a solo, Beck shows his maturity by waiting for Hammer to set the line. Once given the idea, he reworks it, shaking and heightening Hammer's original premise.

This exchange reverses itself on "Scat-teenth," a Beck composition. Beck sets up the piece and Hamper textures it with some beautiful synthesizer stylings. The results are splendid listening.

The rest of Hammer's band should not pass without mention. Drummer Tom Smith provided the support, contributing a stunning vocal performance on "Full Moon Boogie" that nearly overshadowed Beck's talkbox work. Bassist Fernando Saunders reggaed rhythm guitar work on "She's Woman" was one of the highlights of the evening. Violinist Steven Kindler furnishes lyrical background for Beck and Hammer's antics.

Fittingly, the band's best performance of the evening. "Blue Wind," closes the album. Here, Beck and Hammer trade ideas at a pace that would have most music fans scrambling to keep up. Hammer's hand does not let him down in this regard. Kindler takes an admirable turn on rhythm guitar. The rhythm section of Smith and Saunders is tight and controlled.

Knowing that this song was the encore makes the performances more incredible. It is hard to believe upon hearing these people have been practicing for nearly two hours. Beck's playing sounds as though the evening has just begun. Hammer, as usual, is right there with him.

Although the album is an excellent ef-fort, the sense of pacing is lost by Ham-mer's arbitrary ordering of the cuts. This may not be important to those who were not present but it would better convey the mastery of the Beck-Hammer partnership.

The MIT Dramashop announces its major spring production of Luigi Pirandello's "Six Characters in Search of an Author." The tryouts will be held in the Little Theatre of Krenge at 7:30pm on Thursday, 31, 32, and 33. All persons connected with the production will know in advance of vacation whether they have been cast or otherwise chosen to be involved. Production will start Monday, April 4. New members are welcome in all departments. If unable to attend tryouts please call Prof. Ewingham at x3-2908 for special appointment. Performances will be 8pm on April 28, 29, 30 and May 6, 7. .

The Community Music Center of the Bos-ton Wind Ensemble is performing works by Mozart, Haydn and others in a special benefit concert for the Community Music Center on Saturday, March 27 at 3pm. The concert will be held at the Community Music Center, 48 Warren Avenue in Boston. Tickets are $4.00 at the door. For more information, call 482-7844.

The Boston Ballet will present "The Sleeping Beauty" at the Music Hall, 288 Tremont Street, Boston April 6-10. Performances are April 8-10 at 7:30pm and April 10 at 2:30matine. Tickets are $8, $7, $5 and $4. ARTS/Boston vouchers will be accepted. Student discounts available at college outlets. Tickets are also available at the Music Hall (cash only). For more information, call 343-6945.

If you have recently considered making Israel your home or if the idea has been generating in the back of your mind, contact the Israel Aliyah Center. Learn about special benefits available to new immigrants, as well as facts about employment, professional training, education, housing, etc. Ask about financial assistance and special material designed for groups. If you are interested in Israel, Israel is interested in you.
Swimmers in Nationals: three MIT All-Americans

By Gregg State

After their third-place finish in the national meet last year, Preston Vorlicek '79, Rich Ehrlich '77, and Bob Hone '79 returned to MIT as All-Americans. In addition, three school records were broken during MIT's first appearance at the Nationals in six years.

Vorlicek's performances were nothing short of amazing. While he qualified for the meet in the 200-yard breaststroke and 400-yard individual medley, he was also permitted to swim the 100-yard breaststroke. Vorlicek clocked in at 1:02.6 in the 100-yard breaststroke to set a new MIT record and place him twenty-fourth in the nation.

The 400-yard medley team of Vorlicek, Rich Ehrlich 137, and Bob Hone '79 returned to MIT as All-Americans. In addition, three school records were broken during MIT's first appearance at the Nationals in six years.

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The 400-yard medley team of Vorlicek, Ehrlich, and Hone made the cutoff, qualifying twelfth.

The 400-yard medley team of John Dieken '80, Vorlicek, Greg Flores '79, and captain Sam Senne '77 also returned to MIT as All-Americans. In addition, three school records were broken during MIT's first appearance at the Nationals in six years.

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About a week and a half ago it seemed that spring was here. The snow was almost gone, the rink was closed and the Charles was once again flowing. However, in the typical Boston manner, now that the calendar says it really is spring, the ground is once again covered with several inches of snow.

Despite this, spring sports are starting up although many have once again been forced to move their practices indoors. They are mostly of the traditional variety, played on grassy and muddy fields under the open sky.

Winter sports are different. Most seem very contrived when thought of in the middle of the summer. They are an odd collection: outdoor sports played in large indoor arenas, sports played on carefully maintained patches of ice, and those performed on hills of snow.

Winter is a season of snow, slush, and the icy wind off the Charles. Twenty mile-per-hour blasts frequently swept across Briggs Field and the rink in accompaniment to near zero temperatures. There is a legend about a puck breaking when it was dropped to the ice during a hockey game. Anyone who played hockey this winter can well believe it.

Here are a few images from the winter season. They come from indoor and outdoor sports, the successful and the unsuccessful.