**Course VI to eliminate 25% of TA's**

By Steve Kirsch

The character of instruction in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science will be substantially altered next fall due to a reduction in the number of its teaching assistants (TAs), according to Professor of Electrical Engineering Frederick C. Heather, III, executive officer of the Department.

The Department's hopes to no longer afford to maintain the large number of TAs it requires for the unique type of highly individualized instruction known as a tutorial. For the last four years, the Department has been faced with a budget that has not kept pace with the number of its students, according to Associate Dean of the School of Engineering James D. Weiss '67. During this period, the Department chose to "lip into its reserves" in order to maintain the level of its educational program, said Heather.

Now these "reserves," "urgent funds that have accumulated over the years, are running out. The Department plans to reduce its TA's to around 30 -- a level that Heather feels can be supported present budget. The cut will be in two stages: half this fall and the rest next year. TAs will not be cut evenly from each subject, according to Emmett. Lab subjects will continue to have TAs. Core courses will not tolerate a large number of TAs, it requires for the unique type of highly individualized instruction known as a tutorial. For the last four years, the Department has been faced with a budget that has not kept pace with the number of its students, according to Associate Dean of the School of Engineering James D. Weiss '67. During this period, the Department chose to "lip into its reserves" in order to maintain the level of its educational program, said Heather.

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**Tutorials in Advanced electrical engineering subjects such as this one in feedback systems, may not exist next term**

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**Graduate school acceptances**

**MIT publishes favorable stats**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medical School</th>
<th>MIT 80%</th>
<th>Harvard 79.8%</th>
<th>National avg. 56%</th>
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<td>%</td>
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The above graph shows the number of students from MIT, Harvard, and other US schools that were accepted into graduate schools.

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**NATION**

Addressing a joint session of Congress for the first time, President Carter outlined his comprehensive energy program for a national television audience Wednesday night. The emphasis of his program is on conservation through taxes and reduced inducements.

The US House of Representatives voted last Wednesday to prohibit American businesses from knowingly complying with the Arab boycott of Israel. This prohibition was a major goal of President Carter's election campaign last fall.

---

**LOUI WINS NEW ELECTION FOR CHAIRMAN OF DORMON**

By Viva Pet

Warren Loui '78 was elected Dormon Council Chairman in a new election last night after Dormon refused to ratify his earlier election to the same post.

A. yesterday's meeting, Loui presented a referral to the arguments offered at the last meeting in favor of holding a new election. According to Loui, the failure to ratify his election suggested that the members of Dormon were interested in adhering closely to their constitution in their interpretation of who was to represent Dormon.

In order to be consistent, the attempt to ratify should also be held invalid because Besley, who joined Dormon at the ratification meeting, was considered a new member and should not have been allowed to vote at that meeting, said Loui.

At last week's meeting Paul Lagace '78, Vice President of Nano-Photonics, raised the question of whether Loui had the right to cast ballots for Burton House. The official Burton representative was supposed to be Burton House President Phil Kesten '78.

Loui stated that Kesten had given him a proxy, but Kesten responded that he did not recall having done so. Following a lengthy discussion, the ratification of the Dormon election was moved and defeated.

---

**Loui wins new election for chairman of Dormon**

By Viva Pet

Warren Loui '78 was once again elected Dormon Chairman last night.

---

**The Tech looks at the proposed TA curtailments in the Electrical Engineering students and the effects of the proposal on undergraduate and graduate students.**

---

**The Boston Shakespeare Company recently opened a presentation of The Merchant of Venice, which ran in repertory with the production of A Midsummer Night's Dream.**

Monday was Patrick's Day: the day all of Greater Boston turned out for the Boston Marathon. These MIT students share their experiences of running in the annual spring classic.

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TA cuts will not affect all students equally

By Steve Kirsch

In 1963, the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science ran an experiment where two or three undergraduate students met with a graduate student teaching assistant (TA) for an hour to discuss course material. These sessions, known as tutorials, were enjoyed so much by the students that they were adopted as standard procedure in departmental core courses. New, almost 15 years later, this program is being sharply curtailed.

One reason for the cut, according to Dean Bruce, is the large number of research assistantships that students have been receiving. More assistantships means that graduate students have not needed to work as much to support themselves. This is causing a reduction in the number of TAs available to graduate students. The Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science has been faced with a situation where they were adopting a new program at a great loss to the department.

This program was started 15 years later, and it has been a source of income for students. It is important that the number of research assistantships is increased so that students can continue to support themselves. This is especially true for students who are interested in computer science.

The effect of the TA cut on graduate students will be negligible. TAs in graduate subjects are used as a part of the tutorial program. However, the cut means that graduate students will need to find other ways to support themselves. This is causing a reduction in the number of TAs available to graduate students.

Two other departments in the School of Engineering face similar problems. The School of Chemical Engineering and Chemical Engineering Department have been affected by the cut. The number of research assistantships has decreased, and this is causing a reduction in the number of TAs available to graduate students.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 1977 THE TECH PAGE 3

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Opinion

Hopkinson to Boston in the BAA Marathon

By William Laser

They begin on Hayden Rowe St. in Hopkinson, turn quickly onto Route 135, and a few miles and a few hours later they find themselves in Kenmore Square, surrounded on two sides by bards of spectators cheering them through a narrow passageway between the crowds to the Prudential Center, where it all ends.

They are the stoutest Marathonsers, men and women carrying forth the aura that was established when the Athenian Snake Runner Phidippides raced home from the Battle of Marathon, a distance of some 24 or 25 miles. In victory. The lackluster, instead of winning a trophy or a medal at the finish, died there.

There is nothing quite as amazing to the non-runner as the thought of normal human beings by force of their own powers, over a distance of 26 miles, 385 yards in just a few hours. True, we can drive 10 times that distance in about the same time, and man has even gone 10 thousand times as far in our journeys to the moon. But to run it, with the aid only of a good pair of running shoes and a lot of sheer determination, is awe-inspiring.

It is a way to humble those who are athletes. For these seem to have no special talent except perfectly conditioned bodies and enough power to train for months before and then last through the grueling course. The first few runners are indeed impossible, truly unique athletes. But the thousands that they are like the rest of us, except that they work harder.

Watching the runners, one knows that the determination is there. The perseverance and fortitude that they must have. Instead of going to the gym for the annual Patrician Day game or basking in the sun, these people run their bodies to the limit of endurance and suffering for the simple thrill of finishing.

They converge on Boston from all over the country, they complain about the poor organization and the thoughtless spectators who ride beside them on bicycles, snap pictures and scream directly into their ears. There are other marathons. But this one is the Boston Marathon, this one has the color, the tradition, the thrill of just being there.

This is the candy for their diverse backgrounds and their different personalities. Some wear plain T-shirts, but most want to say something to the millions watching. "Central Park AC" "American Medical Joggers Association." "Buffalo Philadelphia Athletic Club," proclaim some of the shirts. Others tell of marathons past, from Hash House Harriers to beer drenched in their hurry's said "just go for the front; as he went by, the back of his shirt concluded. "On Heartbreak Hill."

And each of one's faces tells a story. Some looked as if they were out for an afternoon stroll, others as if they could go no further. There was pain and triumph and complexion on those faces. At Kenmore Square, one runner grabbed his legs in agony, looking gaunt and ghastly, surely finished. He didn't stop.

It is a refreshing change from the professional sports world of contracts and pay strikes and ever-increasing ticket prices. The racers pay a few dollars as an entrance fee; 10 receive trophies, 25 get certificates. The $20,000 purse is divided among the first nine finishers and the 1.5 medals and the rest of the finishers are given certificates. The 1.5 million dollars spent on the race is a small price to pay for the thrill of finishing.

The question probably most often asked of marathons is a simple one: "Why?" Why do they do it, sacrifice their free time and their good health for? It is the same question that the Arab oil embargo was the cause of the oil shortage — almost anywhere where the two items are used interchangeably. The only difference is that the Arab embargo was nothing whatsoever to do with the start of the oil shortage, and even at its height of effectiveness it accounted for only 10% of the shortage. The rest of the shortage can be accounted for by government pricing and allocation policy as much as by the embargo itself.

If you do not believe it, look at the history of the oil shortage — the real origins can be traced back as far as the 1960's and the first real shortages cropped up before the summer of 1972. The shortages were well under way by the time the embargo came along in October 1973, and even then it did not have any real effect until December. The embargo aside, we could have imported all the oil we wanted, and the shortages would have been only slightly better.

There are many people know that there was a shortage of refining capacity? How many people know that while the gasoline shortage was at a near critical state while the shortage of government energy policy of saving and more plentiful. When oil and gas prices reach a certain point, this will come naturally. Conservation will also come naturally — why conserve when it is cheaper and more convenient to waste energy? Install an oil furnace, for example, doesn't make much sense if the gas shortage has cost us more than $1 billion in energy? Insulating a house, for example, doesn't make much sense economic sense unless the energy costs are significant.

Contrary to popular opinion, we have more than enough oil in the ground. If we can import all the oil we want, and the year 2000 — but it has been found, and it won't be found unless it is made economically feasible. For example, there's plenty of oil in oil shale and tar sands — but it's super-expensive. And we won't switch to alternate energy sources such as solar energy, which is not free and is not useful. We could have imported all the oil we wanted, and the shortages would have been only slightly better.

To beat the energy crisis, people will first have to get rid of myths such as the evil Arabs and oil companies, and cheap energy. We know that all of the shortages lie not in some scapegoat, but in ourselves, and it is the government we are responsible for.

By Arthur Hu

By far the most widely believed myth is that the Arab oil embargo is the cause of the oil shortage — almost anywhere where the two items are used interchangeably. The only difference is that the Arab embargo was nothing whatsoever to do with the start of the oil shortage, and even at its height of effectiveness it accounted for only 10% of the shortage. The rest of the shortage can be accounted for by government pricing and allocation policy as much as by the embargo itself.

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The Merchant of Venice, presented by the Boston Shakespeare Company, Thursday and Saturdays at 8pm through June 4, at the Company’s Theatre at Berkeley and Marlborough Streets in Back Bay. Student Rush discounts are available. For information, call 287-5900.

By Gwen Freeman

The Boston Shakespeare Company is less than two years old. Their enthusiasm and creativity reflect their youth, yet their production of one of Shakespeare’s most challenging plays was carried out smoothly and in a professional manner.

The Merchant of Venice is a very difficult play to produce as there is a great deal of room for interpretation of the characters’ personalities. It can be played as a light comedy or a black tragedy, full of hatred and vengeance. It can be played as a lighthearted place. Everything ends well and in a professional manner.

The play opens with Antonio, the merchant of Venice (Richard Moses), worrying about his fortune, which is entwined with bow his trading ships fare on the sea. Yet even though his fortune is uncertain, he is still good. He is able to borrow money from Shylock the Jew (Ramón Ramos) for his friend Bassanio (Sterling Swant), who needs it to woo his love, Portia (Anita Barzman). Unfortunately, Portia is not really free to return Bassanio’s love. Her father’s will states that her suitors must choose correctly amongst three chests of gold, silver and lead. If they choose the chest with her picture in it, then they are permitted to marry her and inherit her father’s estate. Antonio, who has cursed the Jew in the past, is now forced to rely upon him. Shylock tries to get revenge by demanding a pound of Antonio’s flesh if he fails to pay back his debts in time.

Unable to repay his loan, Antonio sends a plea of help to Bassanio, whose new wife, Portia, saves the day. She disguises herself in the court scene as a lawyer and legally prevents Shylock from collecting his bond. The most important piece of attire is a necklace. Common to all of the characters, it symbolizes their identity. Bassanio and his love, Portia, wear jewels in their necklaces, indicating that they are more interested in love than religion. All the other Christians wear crosses which resemble badges of authority more than anything else. Shylock and Jessica each start the play wearing the star of David.

Jessica’s first necklace is cast into the street when she elopes with Lorenzo. She receives from him a cross which signals her conversion to Christianity. Her old necklace is left on the ground for Shylock to find in a brief, wordless scene at the end of the act. As the play ends, Shylock has lost his property and the right to his own religion. Gratiano (Richard Cochrane), in a fit of thoughtless cruelty, tears off the old necklace and substitutes a cross. The Christians all contribute to Shylock’s distress, but they picture their world as a romantic and lighthearted place. Everything ends well for the various lovers, but there are still some sorrow overtones to the play.

Ramón Ramos, as Shylock, is the most commanding presence on stage. One cannot help sympathizing when he is hurt by the Christians’ scorn, by his daughter’s desertion and theft, and by the failure of the Venetian courts to give him justice in his legal case, even though it is a cruel and heartless one. No one in the play is willing to speak up for Shylock, as a man or as a Jew. One feels that if his world wasn’t so unjustly prejudiced, he would not have suffered so.

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广场. Despite the fairy-tale happy ending that the other characters enjoy.

The comic scenes of the Christians’ world are outstanding. Especially noteworthy was Grey Johnson’s performance of Launcelot Gobbo, a servant of Shylock, as are Asila Burman (Portia) and B. Proctor Gray’s Nerissa, her lady-in-waiting. The letter performance in Act V, where they accused their husbands of being cuckolded, was their brightest moment.

This last act provides an upbeat note to conclude on, but in the Boston Shakespeare Company’s production the character of Shylock has been given sufficient depth and humanity that he is not to be forgotten, even though the fairy-tale happy ending that the other characters enjoy.

The Zomin Choir of Boston will present its annual choral-orchestral concert honoring Israel Independence Day on April 24, 7:30 pm, at Kresge Auditorium. Works will include scenes from Mendelssohn’s Elijah; and the world premiere of Daniel Pinkham’s The Rainbow. Tickets are $6.50, $5.50, $4.50, and $3.50 special rates for students and groups are available. For information call 926-3687.

The Greenwood Consort presents “In Praise of Folks,” a historical music. The program will include scenes from Mendelssohn’s Elijah; and the world premiere of Daniel Pinkham’s The Rainbow. Tickets are $3.50, ($2.00 for students) and may be obtained by sending a check and self-addressed stamped envelope to: The Greenwood Consort, P.O. Box 1534, Boston, MA 02160.

Blues Guitarist Roy Buchanan will be presented in concert Saturday, May 7, at the Berklee Performance Center, Boston at 7:00pm. Tickets are on sale at the box office and Strawberries. Mail orders are accepted by calling the box office, 286-1400, ext. 161.

Actually, anytime’s the right time to say Budweiser. And when you do, you’ve really said it all!
plays coast guard tomorrow

baseball stuck in 4-game slump

by tom curts

For nine innings Monday afternoon on Briggs Field MIT hurler Ken Smith '77 held undefeated and second-ranked Brandeis to one unearned run and six hits. Linking arms, Brandeis centerfielder Ken Hilyer limited the Beavers to one unearned run and only one hit, and collected a 2-1 victory over MIT as the Beavers scored in their last four games- as the only run the Beavers have scored in their last four games-as well as spoiling the Beavers' hope for an upset.

And, with Smith's brilliant effort on the mound, the Beavers failed to make a serious challenge to Brandeis ace Vin Gian Graizia '77, who held undefeated Ken Smith '77 to a single hit and Jeff Felton '78 double. Gian Graizia reached the ball and started the Beavers' hopes for a rally, but the Beavers were stuck in an 8-game slump.

Throughout the next five innings Smith and Hilyer pitched a complete double play. In the 10th inning Hilyer pitched near perfect ball, allowing only a scattering of hits and avoiding serious trouble. In the 10th, however, Smith's brilliant effort began to fade and Coach Frank O'Brien replaced him with reliever Rick Olson '78. With Smith gone, MIT could no longer stop Brandeis.

In the top of the 11th Brandeis first baseman Steve Finnegan hit a pop fly which dropped just out of reach of the third baseman.

MIT's only tally came in the fourth. With one out Dan Sandberg '77 and Jeff Felton '78 drew walks to place a runner in scoring position. In the next play Sandberg scored on a wild pitch. But in the bottom of the fourth Brandeis ace Vin Gian Graizia hit a hard worker, relocating interviews.

A home-run run results in a foul ball for Joseph Kracunas '78 in Monday's game.

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please sign up for an appointment with us at the career and planning resource office, room 10-140, where we will be interviewing on Monday, April 25th.

if unable to attend, please send your resume, attention Stephen pett, manager, professional recruiting, to our Lowell facility.

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Three MIT students experience the marathon

By Glenn Brownstein

Fred Silver G is an experienced marathoner, having run three Boston Athletic Association (BAA) Marathons and several others over the past few years.

Frank Kenney, '79, is a member of the MIT track team who “reads about the race in the papers and thought I’d be really interesting for me to try one.”

Richard G, a relative novice to the sport of distance running, having started only a year and a half ago. He set his sights on the Boston Marathon as a personal goal to keep him running and would have succeeded if not for a hidden pull of last-minute jogging in Boston.

There are probably about 5,000 such stories every year that go with a Boston Marathon, 3,000 of all official entrants who have run under a prescribed time limit in a race within the last twelve months, and almost as many others who compete unofficially.

And there are other stories as well: the 5,000 stories that begin during training, aptly named “Heartbreak Hill” near Boston College, where scores of runners every year drop off their intended pace; the ‘cheezy’ marathon, which prevents a finisher’s head start from the Hopkinton starting line and turn in adjusted times comparable to the best marathons; and the weather, always a factor in times and the level of attrition.

Last March, scores of hopefuls hefted to officially-entered MIT students, one of them, Silver G. "It couldn’t be contested," Several other students ran unofficially, “spotting”times anywhere from three to nine hours. What is it that sends many of the best marathons to Boston every April? Very importantly, what is marathon running all about? Here are three of those 5,000 stories.

Frank Kenney has been running track for the last five years, two years in high school and three in MIT. He heard about the Marathon in the papers, he decided to try it one time and set out to qualify for the 1977 running.

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