

in the news

Weather — Today: Early morning fog dissipating, becoming partly sunny. High in the upper 70's. Tonight: Becoming partly cloudy, low in the upper 60's. Friday: Partly sunny, chance of thunderstorms. Hot and humid, high readings 85-90 degrees.

INSIDE

The United States government has moved against nitrates and nitrites, food additives used for the preservation of prepared meats. This and other top stories are summarized in today's News Roundup.

p3

OUTSIDE

Perhaps the most important part of the trip home after a long stay in Hanover, is the preparation that is necessary... Such preparation should begin at least one week in advance, perhaps more if you have been up here for more than one term. This is "language awareness week."

One must concentrate heavily on refraining from the use of obscene words during this week. If it is not possible to stop such utterances, at least be aware of their occurrences. In particular, be aware of the replacement of all exclamatives by expletives. The most common example is the use of "s---." For instance, while in Hanover one can usually be heard saying, "s---, it's one o'clock. Let's go to lunch." At home be sure to say, "Oh, it's one o'clock. Let's go to lunch." Other obscene words can and are substituted for s---, and their usage should be corrected in the same way.

...Typically, father will offer a drink ("Is beer okay?"). Not wishing to offend him and beginning to feel withdrawal symptoms, you accept. Without thinking, the beer has been guzzled within 15 seconds and your parents are sitting there with their jaws hanging down. This is not good; they might begin to realize that the extra poundage you came home with is not really from the "good food the coed next door has been making for you."

— from "Shaping up before going home" by Bruce Kaufman, *The Dartmouth*

THE TECH

With this issue, *The Tech* begins daily publication throughout R/O week. *The Daily Confusion*, a newsletter for incoming freshmen produced by the R/O Committee, will appear in each issue on the back page.

Campus prepares for class of 1981



By Mark James

Foreign students, transfers, and prospective ROTC members have begun the parade of incoming freshmen arriving at MIT, a parade that will be welcomed by a diverse set of students, administrators and faculty.

As of yesterday afternoon, 37 foreign freshmen and 128 international graduate students had arrived, along with around 70 transfer students.

The rest of the 1092 freshmen are expected to arrive today and tomorrow. The initial welcome for many of them will come from the R/O Center, where they will receive information packets, be photographed for their MIT identification cards, and receive temporary housing assignments.

Living groups are next in the reception line. The large size of the freshman class has led the R/O committee to restrict the number of dormitory residents allowed to return for R/O week, but each dormitory has a number of residents who are prepared to



A sure sign of R/O week: luggage from hundreds of temporarily-housed freshmen begins to pile up in the Sala de Puerto Rico as last year's orientation began

give tours and otherwise introduce newcomers to their house.

Fraternity residents are back in larger numbers. The Inter-Fraternity Conference (IFC) rules prohibit fraternities from rushing freshmen before the end of Friday's picnic, but members have been engaged in work week, a period of renovation and sprucing up houses for rush (see story below).

The R/O Committee is coordinating much of the student activity in orientation. From the airport shuttle bringing freshmen from the airport to parents tours on the weekend before registration day, this group's job lasts for the entire week.

Also playing a major role is the Dean's Office — Associate Dean

for Student Affairs Ken Browning '66 has been calculating how to house the dormitories' share of the large freshman class.

Housing and Food Services' Eugene Brammer described R/O week as "a pretty hectic time of year." His department must make certain that dormitories are physically ready for fall occupancy. This year they have also had to prepare Random Hall, a process which has included the installation of new locks and grillwork to improve security.

Several events have been held for foreign students, including a luncheon, a tour of the Science Museum and visits to "Where's Boston" and the Prudential Building.

"The idea of the (International Students) Orientation is basically

to help the foreign students get to know people at MIT," according to Dr. Charlotte Schwartz, a sociologist in the Medical Department who originated the orientation five years ago. The events are now totally student run.

Most of the foreign students interviewed by *The Tech* expressed concerns similar to those of other freshmen: how to choose fraternities to visit, how to discover the difference between dormitories, and how to decide which courses to take.

One wondered, "Is it my imagination or are there about twenty different parties on Friday night?"

He and the other 1091 freshmen will soon discover there are many more than that before R/O week is over.

Frats readying houses for Rush Week

By Gordon Haff

Editor's note: Gordon Haff, Photo Editor of *The Tech*, visited one of MIT's 30 fraternities to check on the progress of work week, the fraternities' way of getting their houses ready for R/O week and sometimes performing major renovations.

I wandered up to the house. The sun was beating down mercilessly on a group of fraternity brothers scraping the old paint off their house door. Their faces were lined with dirt and sweat from their job. In other spots, house members were sitting and lying down in their gym shorts among heaped piles of junk on the sidewalk.

Inside, the sunlight drifted in through a pall of dust giving a soft, warm luminescence to the scene. Walking carefully around and over a seemingly endless pile of furniture, paint cans, carpets, for that matter just about anything you could name, I wandered up to the second floor. On the way there, I was met by a couple of friends who insisted on my seeing their room if I wanted to see a real mess. So they showed me "The Pit" as they called it. After recovering my composure, I snapped a few pictures and continued upstairs.

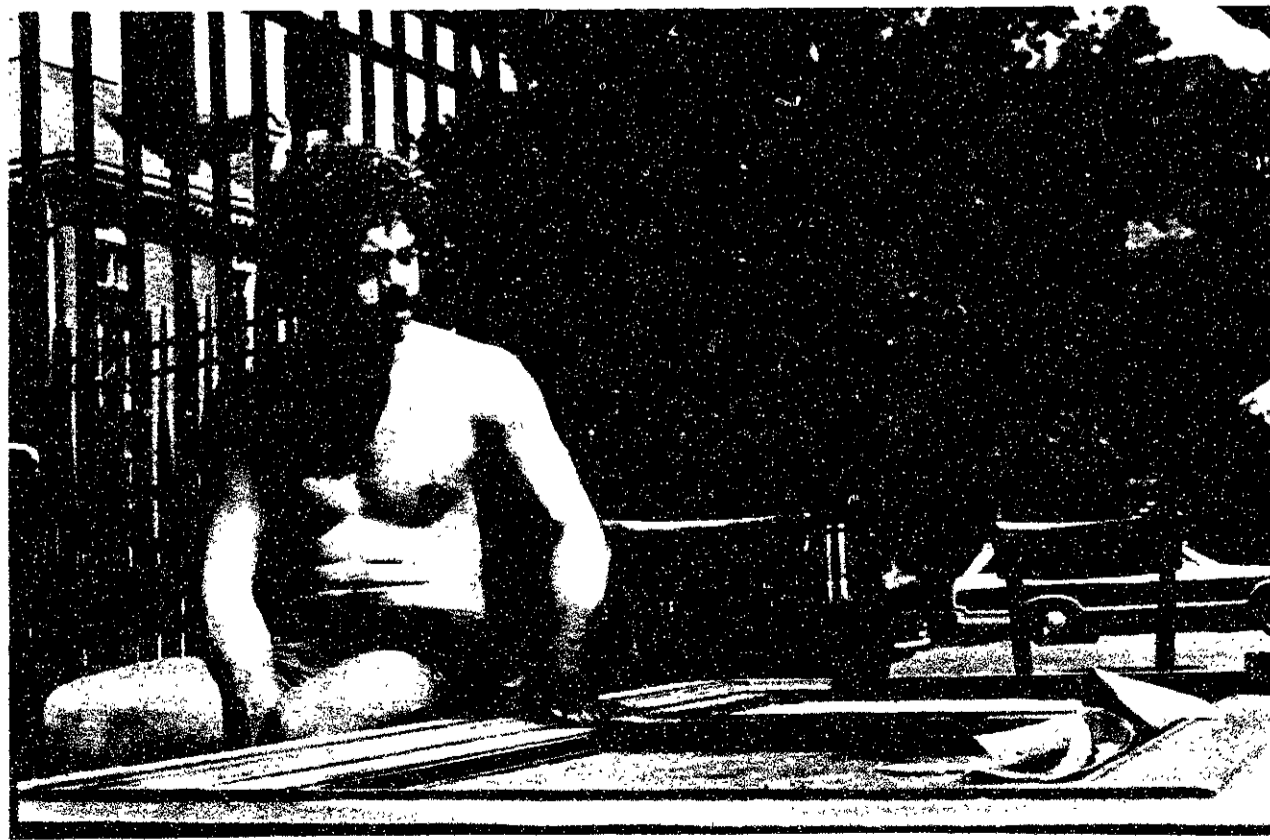
Looking up the spiral staircase, level upon level of junk came into view. Not really having the energy

to fight up another flight of stairs in the oppressive heat, I went out onto the first-floor porch where a couple of brothers were relaxing while gulping sodas.

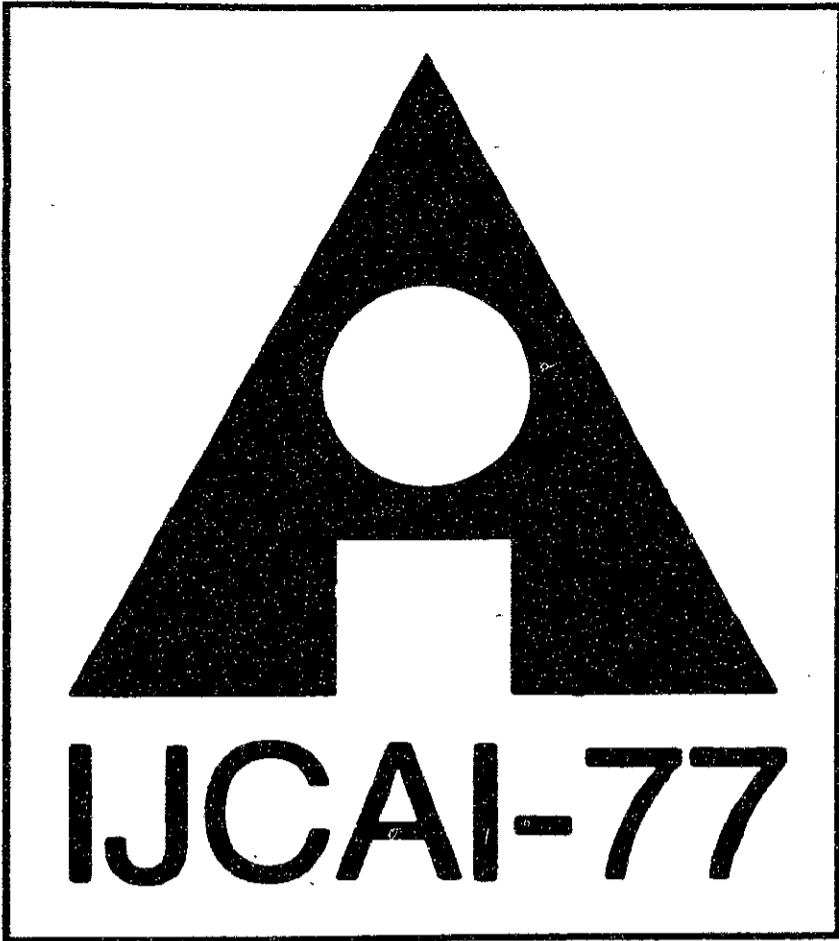
We talked for a while about work week. They told me that the week really isn't as bad as a lot of people make it out. People work

more or less steadily during the day. They find out what all their friends did over the summer. At night there are meetings about the coming rush, the exact tactics to be employed. Notes are compared from the summer rush. One of the brothers remarked that the summer rush is perhaps more impor-

tant than Rush Week itself in his house. Their bids are usually out by 8:10 Sunday morning. Of course, this isn't true with most houses. When I mentioned what a disaster area the house looked, his reaction was "It's not bad at all this year, we aren't doing any major renovation."



One of the many fraternity members engaged in work week sands part of a new door



Experts convene at MIT for fifth AI Conference

By Kent Pitman

Artificial Intelligence (AI), perhaps the most controversial branch of computer science, was in the limelight last week as hundreds of experts and enthusiasts flocked to MIT for a four-day symposium.

During the fifth International Joint Conference on AI nearly 250 papers were presented, highlighting some of the problems and solutions encountered in the two years since the last such gathering.

Some of the more theoretical topics presented concerned the concepts of how knowledge should be represented in a machine for easy and quick access.

This range of discussion also covered the extent of understanding of a problem is needed by a machine. Some of those present favored a simple approach, where others felt that a very complex knowledge structure is essen-

tial even if it is seldom used.

Simple cases were used to illustrate the problem. A common example given was the definition of a kiss. Is it necessary that a machine should know that if John kissed Mary, there was emotional exchange in addition to the physical act?

Also discussed was the further question of how to represent in a computer a complex concept such as emotion; simple definitions of commonplace objects are difficult to formulate at present.

On the other end of the agenda were the practical aims of artificial intelligence. Lecturers from MIT, Yale, Stanford, and elsewhere described computer systems already in operation which were capable of specialized problem-solving.

Among these were packages using sophisticated reasoning techniques to be used in chemistry, medicine and numerical analysis.

Problems of freshmen in 1902

Editor's note: This article was originally published in The Tech in 1902; we think that it remains relevant to the freshman experience in 1977.

I wonder if everyone is affected the same way that I was when I went to my first recitation in Algebra. After considerable trouble I managed to find the room where the fatal struggle was to take place. Softly and in awe of the professor sitting upright in his chair at the front of the room, I stole in and slid quickly into the nearest seat. Shortly after, the recitation began and the professor in low gruff tones asked us to come forward and show our registration cards. Now it so happened, fortunately, I thought then, but unfortunately as I found later, that when I reached the room, the back seat in the corner nearest the door was unoccupied, and into that I had crept. But unfortunately that seat was too far away for me to hear a word that the professor said. However on seeing the others start forward, off I started, too, not knowing why. On reaching the desk I very quickly found out it was our registration cards that were wanted. Now unfortunately, I had worn a different suit on the day I received my registration card and had forgotten to change

Looking back

the card; so there I stood, the professor glaring at me and wondering why I stood so mum and without my card. All the while I was trying to murmur, "I left it at home." Finally he seemed to catch the last word, "Home," he exclaimed, "well what are you up here for?" "Didn't you hear me say, if you haven't it with you bring it next time?" With sunken head I start for my seat which unfortunately, this time, was away off in the corner of the room nearest the door; finally, it seemed ages before I got there, I reached it. Then the lesson commenced. It had been assigned on a general bulletin which unfortunately I had not seen. However I soon found out from

the fellow ahead of me that it was on logarithms. For the second and last time in that hour I considered myself lucky. Here was my strong point, but I found much to my sorrow that here, too, was my weak point.

"Brown, define a logarithm of a number," growled the professor. Brown couldn't define it to suit him, and neither could the next man nor the next, and at each time the fellows all became more excited. This was visibly augmented by numerous questions from the professor. Between trying to answer the questions and defining a logarithm of a number each and every member of the class went under. Then the round of the section was started with another question which was finally answered by the fellow next to me. So the next question must come to me. Now I had been unable to hear anything spoken by the professor up to this time but could only guess at what was said by the several fellows trying to answer the questions. Then came the question, (I found out what it was later) "What is the number of which 3 1/2 is the logarithm?" "I can't hear," I murmured. He evidently didn't hear me, for he said "What's that," and I, thinking he said, "Can't you," said "No sir." I (Please turn to page 3)

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ARMY ROTC



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.

Why NOT give it a try?

Army ROTC

20E-126 x4471

The Tech

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news roundup

World

Rhodesians support Smith — Rhodesian President Ian Smith has been given a huge mandate by his country's white electorate in national elections held yesterday. Smith hopes to gain enough parliamentary seats to allow him to put his plan for a power-sharing arrangement with moderate black Rhodesians into effect.

Nation

Additives suspected — The United States Department of Agriculture and the Food and Drug Administration are asking manufacturers of prepared meats to submit reports concerning the use of nitrates and nitrites as preservatives. The chemicals have been suspected of generating cancer-causing nitrosamines in the stomach when consumed.

Court may decide Kent State controversy — A Kent State University group, the May 4th Coalition, is filing a brief in the United States Supreme Court in an effort to stop construction of a gymnasium on the site where four students were killed by Ohio National Guardsmen on May 4, 1970.

Sports

The American League East Pennant Race

| | Won | Lost | Pct. | GB |
|-----------|-----|------|------|----|
| New York | 80 | 52 | .606 | — |
| Boston | 75 | 55 | .577 | 4 |
| Baltimore | 75 | 55 | .577 | 4 |

Wednesday's results:

Cleveland 4, Boston 3; N.Y. 5, Seattle 4; Balt. 4, Cal. 3

Trying times for Class of 1906

(Continued from page 2)

knew something was wrong for everyone laughed, the professor excepted, of course. Then occurred the following dialogue. I answering his questions by "Yes" and "No, sir," as I thought they ought to be answered. Many of them I found out after were wrong.

"Can't you hear me?" "No, sir."

"What is the number of which $3\frac{1}{2}$ is the logarithm?"

"No, sir?"

"Are you deaf?" "No, sir?"

"Didn't you hear me?" "Yes, sir."

"Then answer the question."

"No, sir."

Then angrily "Sit down." I heard this last as it was said more forcibly than the former ones. I had noticed that all the sections were laughing and that with the successive questions had so rattled me that I was so confused I couldn't have told my name if I had been asked. I wasn't called on again that hour.

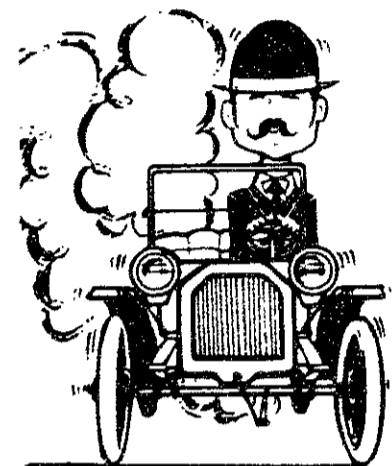
Soon the recitation closed much to my relief, and I found out then what I had done. Meanwhile I am keeping a wide tract of land between myself and that professor in the hopes that when he finds me in the front seat at the next recitation he won't recognize me.

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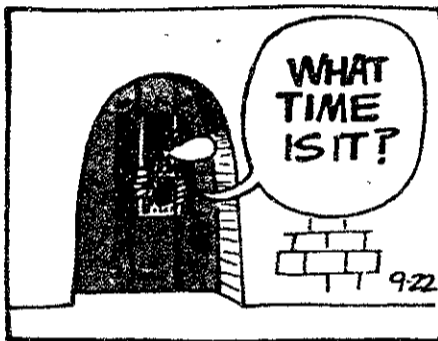
Going Shopping?



First check the ads in
The Tech

THE WIZARD OF ID

by Brant parker and Johnny hart



The Wizard of Id appears daily in The Boston Globe.

NAVAL ROTC



Welcomes the Class of '81

Office 20F-125, x3-2991

The Daily Confusion

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

In emergency dial 100 from any MIT phone
 R/O center: x3-4551 (2-3-4551 from dormline)
 Freshman Advisory Council (FAC): x3-6771

This is the first issue of *The Daily Confusion*, a newsletter published daily during R/O Week. Our purpose is to provide updated information on activities, meetings, and other events, and to relate information that might be useful to you, our incoming freshmen.

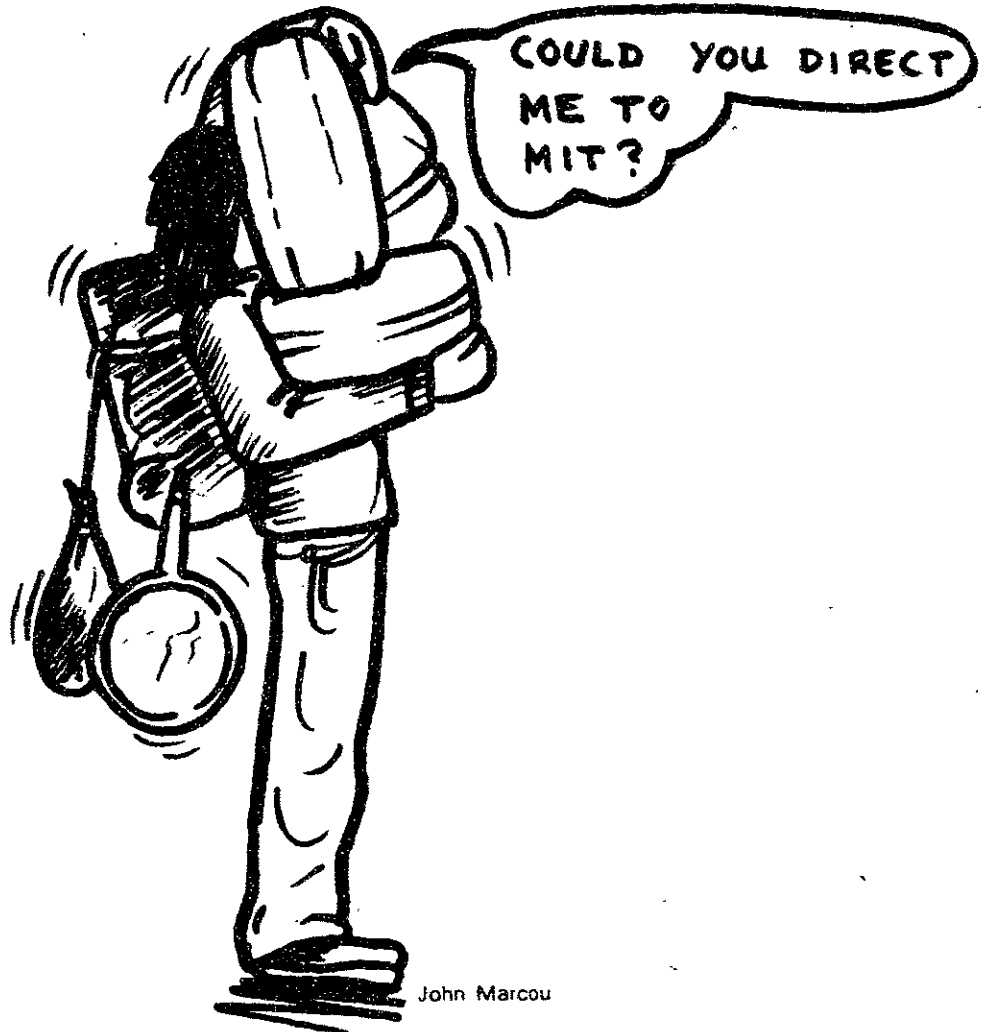
Since there are few scheduled events this afternoon, it might be helpful to become acquainted with the campus and the Boston, Cambridge area. Tours will be leaving from the Student Center throughout the afternoon. See the schedule for further details. Additionally, today might be a good time to visit dormitories, before the beginning of rush week tomorrow evening.

All information for *The Daily Confusion* should be submitted at either *The Tech's* newsroom (W20-483) or the R/O center (Student Center West Lounge) by 2pm the day preceding publication date.

GREETINGS

MIT Hillel: When you arrive at MIT, feel free to drop by the Hillel office for information on R/O activities, Jewish life on campus, or just to meet people and to talk.

Bienvenue aux fraishommes et fraichefemmes! Les habitants de la maison français vous invite à voir notre chère maison. La maison français se trouve à la maison 6 du dortoir new house.



John Marcou

EATING

Now that R/O Week has begun, many freshmen (and ambitious upperclassmen as well) undertake the challenge to eat absolutely free for ten glorious days. Well, it can be done! However, for the faint-of-heart and the weak-of-stomach, there are lots of inexpensive eating places in the MIT vicinity.

On-campus Dining Service: Lobdell (Student Center) and Walker (Near East Campus): Breakfast: 7-9 (\$1-\$2 approx.); Lunch: 11-2 (\$2-\$3); Dinner: 5-7 (\$3-\$4).

Lobdell (Student Center): 2-4:30 — Sandwiches

20 Chimneys (3rd floor Student center): 7pm-midnight — grill and soda fountain.

24-Hour Coffee House (2nd floor Student Center) coffee, donuts, candy bagels
 Pritchett Lounge (Walker Memorial): opens next week — Grill and Soda Fountain

Off-campus eating: Pizza+Grinders at the Campus House of Pizza (2 blocks down Mass Ave.) 11am-12pm

McDonalds (5 blocks down Mass Ave) 7-11

Jack-in-the-Box (5 blocks down Mass Ave, open 24 hours, better left in the box)

For Chinese food fans "Little Eating Place" is closest and cheapest 11:45-9:30 (Sat and Sun to 10:30). Szechuan and Hunan (down Mass Ave). Hunan is more formal.

Colleen's is great — The Hot-and-Sour Wonton Soup is incredibly good (12-2 & 5-10; turn R at Bike Workshop, L at Main Market, it's two doors down.)

If these aren't enough, consult your handy *HoToGAMIT* restaurant chapter or explore for yourself.

THURSDAY

9am-11pm R/O Center open.
 10am-9pm Airport, bus, and train shuttle operates.

1,2,3,4pm Tours of MIT leave from the steps of the Student Center.

3-30pm Foreign student tea and coffee party in Ashdown dining hall

5pm Foreign student film in Ashdown dining hall

7pm Bridge Club-ACBL Duplicate Bridge game in room 407, Student Center. Free for freshmen; others 25 cents. Come early if you need a partner.

8pm Hungry? Go to dinner nearby. Freshpersons and upperclasspersons. Pay your own way. Meet outside R/O Center.

7, 9:30pm LSC Movie "The Graduate". Kresge Auditorium. Free to all with MIT ID.

9pm Foreign student meeting with Mr. Chamberlain in Walker Memorial Building.

12midnight SCC Midnight movie "Cat Ballou" in Lobdell Dining Hall. Free to all with MIT ID.

Living Groups

7-11am **Russian House** breakfast, vegetarians welcome, continuous 5-kopek tours, 25K on the hour.

7:30-9:30am **Baker House** breakfast, bagel and OJ

9am **Senior House** donuts and juice in Ware Lounge.

11:30am **WILG** quiche brunch for transfer women.

8pm **WILG** Alice's Ice Cream Parlor.

8pm **ADP** wine and cheese party.

8pm **Random Hall** Get Together for Freshmen and interested Upperclassmen. Refreshments will be served.

8:30pm **McCormick** get together in the main lobby.

9pm **Baker House** cookie making party. Fun to make, fun to eat.

ODDS AND ENDS

Transfer Students are welcome at all freshman activities

On request, fraternities will provide transportation for freshpeople back to campus or to another frat. In addition, the Campus Patrol (x3-1212) will provide escort service to and from WILG, ADP, and Random Hall at night.

Please make the following correction to telephone numbers listed in your *Undergraduate Residence* book:

Senior House should be 253-3191.
 WILG should be 354-3529, or 253-6799.

Consult page 38 of the *Undergraduate Residence* book for other addresses, phone numbers, and full names of living groups.

FRIDAY

8am-12midnight R/O Center open.

9am-9pm ESG Open house 24-612.

10am-4pm ESG Information table in Student Center.

10am-4pm Airport, train, and bus shuttle operates.

11am, 12noon, 1, 2, 3pm Tours of MIT leave the Student Center steps.

3pm Pre-Picnic discussion groups in Killian Court. (rain location: du-Pont Gym)

3-4pm Parents hospitality hour in mezzanine lounge, Student Center.

4:30pm **Freshman Picnic** in Killian Court. (rain location: du-Pont Gym)

6:30pm **Fraternity Rush** begins

6:30-10pm Un-Rush in Private Dining Room No. 2, third floor of the Student Center.

7:00pm MIT Hillel: Traditional Services in the Kosher Kitchen, Room 50-005 (Walker Memorial Basement)

7:00pm MIT Hillel: Creative Services in the Chapel.

7:45pm Shabbat dinner in the Kosher Kitchen.

10:00pm Oneg Shabbat at Burton House, Suite 254.

Living Groups

7-11am **Russian House** breakfast, vegetarians welcome, continuous 5-kopek tours, 25-k on the hour.

7:30-9:30am **Baker House** breakfast,

bagels, and OJ.

9am **Senior House** donuts and juice in Ware Lounge.

9-11am **Burton House** doughnut breakfast.

9am-5pm **McCormick** open house.

After Freshman Picnic **Senior House** bonfire in courtyard. Roast marshmallows and corn-on-the-cob. Freshwomen only, please.

After Freshman Picnic **Theta Xi** Steamers, pizza, make your own sundaes and something very special.

7pm **PDT** Meet the brothers of PDT and join them for pizza, beer, and cokes.

8pm **PSK** Music and conversation, open bar, casual atmosphere.

8pm **ND** Wine and Cheese party.

8pm **PKT** Big party with live band.

8:15pm **ZBT** Folk singer and wine and cheese.

8:23pm **TEP** The Ed Weston Roving Gorilla Theatre.

8:30pm **AEPi** Ice cream party.

8:30pm **McCormick** Get together in lobby

9pm **Fenway House** "His Girl Friday", Carey Grant versus Rosalind Russell. Also miscellaneous shorts.

9pm **Baker House** coffee house, just relax and be entertained.

9pm **PKS** sub party prepared by the famous Dick's Sub Shop.

9:35pm **TEP** pizza and beer chugging contest.