The Tech

Campus prepares for class of 1981

RESIDENCE ORIENTATION

By Mark James

Foreign students, transfers, and prospective ROTC members have begun the parade of incoming freshmen arriving at MIT, a trade that will continue over the next four weeks by a diverse set of students, administrators, and faculty.

As of yesterday afternoon, 37 foreign freshmen and 228 international graduate students had arrived, along with around 70 transfers.

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 identification cards, 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 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 activities, and some fraternities have been allowed to return for R/O week. 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.

Several events have been held for foreign students, including a luncheon, a tour of the Science Museum and visits to "Where's the Beef?" 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 concern 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 imagination or are there about twenty different parties on Friday night?"

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

Frat 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 fraternity's 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 working on the old paint on the back of their house. 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 heaps of junk on the sidewalk.

Inside, the sunlight drifted in through a pall of dust giving a soft, warm luminousness to the scene. Walking carefully around and over a seemingly endless pile of furniture, paint cans, carpet, 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, 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 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 steady 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 important than Rush Week itself in his house. Their bids are usually out by 8:30 Sunday morning. Of course, this isn't true with most houses. When I mentioned what a disaster the house looked, his reaction was "It's not bad at all this year, we aren't doing any major renovations.

In this issue, The Tech brings you a feature article highlighting the work week. The Daily Conference, a newsletter for incoming freshmen produced by the R/O Committee, will appear in each issue on the back page.

One of the many fraternity members engaged in work weekAND part of a new dorm
Editor's note: This article was originally published in The Tech in 1902, which looks back on the 1901 freshmen and the evolution of MIT.

Problems of freshmen in 1902

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 sudden 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 I unfortunately 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 second hour 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 3½ is the logarithm? I can't hear," I murmured. He evidently didn't hear me for he said "What's that? I can't hear," he said "Can you," said "No sir." I (Please turn to page 2)

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

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World
Rhodanians 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

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Wednesday's results: Cleveland 4, Boston 3; N.Y. 5, Seattle 4; Baltimore 4, Cal. 3

(continued from page 2 —)
Then something was wrong for everyone laughed, the professor excepted, of course. Then occurred the following dialogue. I answered his questions by "Yes," and "No, sir," as I thought they ought to be answered. Many of them I found afterwards were wrong.

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

"What is the number of which 3/4 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.

by Brant and Johny boy
**TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

In emergency dial 100 from any MIT phone.
R/O Center: x3-4551 (2-3455 from dormline)
Freshman Advisory Council (FAC): x3-6771

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**EATING**

Now that R/O Week has begun, many freshmen find 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 area.

**On-campus Dining Service:**
- Lunch: 11:15-2 (22-53); Dinner: 5-7 (53-43)
- Lobdell (Student Center): 2:40-3:00
- Campus Dining Hall: 7:30-9:30am and 5-7pm
- Colleen's: 7-11pm, 8:30pm-10pm
- Jack-in-the-Box: 7-11pm
- Pizza + Grinders: 7-11pm

**Off-campus Dining:**
- Baker House: 9-11pm
- McCormick: 7-11pm
- Chamberlain: 7-11pm
- Russian House: 7-11pm
- Foreign Students' House: 7-11pm
- French House: 7-11pm
- Student Center: 7-11pm
- Georgian Court: 7-11pm
- Webster: 7-11pm

**Transfer Students are welcome at all living groups**

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**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 talk.

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**ODDS AND ENDS**

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**FRIDAY**

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**THURSDAY**

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**The Daily Cnosufno**

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