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in the news

INSIDE

In case you missed any of *The Tech's* brilliant movie reviews, a capsule summary of this year's movies is offered.

p7

Focusing on Faces allows students to observe the processes involved in creating instant portraits.

p8

CAMPUS

The IAP Blood Drive will be held this Thursday and Friday, January 11 and 12, in the Sala de Puerto Rico on the second floor of the Student Center. Although all types of blood are in demand, because of the recent holiday, the Red Cross is looking especially for donors of O-negative and A-negative blood. Donor hours each day are 9:45am to 3:30pm; no appointments are needed.

EXCERPTS

Tips for Teens

It is at this point in your life that you will be giving the greatest amount of time and attention to matters of sex. This is not only acceptable, but should, in fact, be encouraged, for this is the last time that sex will be genuinely exciting. The more farsighted among you may wish to cultivate supplementary interests in order that you might have something to do when you get older.

Avoid drugs whenever possible. For while they may, at this juncture, provide a pleasant diversion, they are, on the whole, not the sort of thing that will in later years (should you have later years) be of much use in the acquisition of richly rewarding tax shelters or beachfront property.

Stand firm in your refusal to remain conscious during algebra. In real life, I assure you, there is no such thing as algebra.

The teen years are fraught with any number of hazards, but none so perilous as that which manifests itself as a tendency to consider movies an important art form.

Fran Lebowitz
Newsweek

U.S.-Chinese relations discussed

By Gordon Hunter

MIT should be used as an academic model by the People's Republic of China, according to Provost Walter A. Rosenblith. Rosenblith, one of the speakers at the Symposium on US-China Relations Monday, added that MIT should not be copied by the emerging institutions so as to allow China to cultivate its own educational philosophies and traditions.

Rosenblith dealt mainly with what he called the "basically positive problems" involved with academic exchanges between the two countries now that relations have been normalized.

Rosenblith explained that China wants to include academic research and development institutions in their plan for modernization, something that MIT has participated in for other countries. He said that he sees a latent, "enormous reserve" of academicians in China that could benefit both countries, if they were developed.

One difficulty with the exchange of students is that the academic roles in the two countries differ, according to Rosenblith. He said that if mutual benefit is to be gained by exchanges, the people involved must meet certain prerequisites, for ex-

ample, a working knowledge of both the everyday and technical languages to be used.

Rosenblith suggested that only a few students should be involved with the exchange at first so that experience can be gained regarding the selection of the participants for the maximum benefit to both the United States and China. He also suggested that participants should attend classes and talk to students to help understand the academic philosophy.

The staff director of the Committee on Scholarly Communication with China, Mary Bullock of Stanford University, also spoke about the student exchange program with China. She said that some exchange students have already been sent to their assignments. She added that while programs for Chinese students here have been worked out, the programs for American students in China are still unknown. Bullock announced that the second deadline for applications to become involved with the exchange program is February 9.

The larger issues of normalization of relations between the United States and China were discussed by Ford International Professors of Political Science Lucien Pye and William Griffith,



Ford International Professor of Political Science Lucien Pye addressing the audience at the Symposium on US-China Relations. (Photo by Chuck Irwin)

both of MIT. Pye cautioned that the lack of a firm basis for the new relationship could lead to misunderstandings and disillusionment that could ruin the relationship. Griffith explained that while the Soviet threat to China that led to the normalization of relations is very real, a claim that Pye questioned, the United States and China still have conflicts that could lead to another break.

Thompson Professor of Chinese History Ping-Ti Ho of the University of Chicago talked about the domestic stability and unity of China. He also went into an extensive review of Chinese resources, especially energy resources, that he said could be of economic interest to the United States.

Professor of Aeronautics and Astronautics Y.T. Li, Vice
(Please turn to page 3)

SIPB course sparks interest in LISP

By Kent Pitman

Over 200 eager students showed up Monday for the first lecture of Bernard Greenberg's IAP course, "A Radical Introduction to Lisp."

The course in the Lisp computer language is now in its fourth year, and represents Greenberg's alternative to the traditional approach to Lisp which one might receive in 6.030 or 6.031.

Despite the fact that Lisp has been in existence now for about 20 years, it has not caught on in the business world like COBOL and Fortran. "Most computer programs written in the world are simply not exciting," says

Greenberg, so COBOL and Fortran can handle them.

As the attendance figures show, interest in Lisp at MIT is on the rise. Last year 50 students had been expected but 100 appeared, overflowing the space of the lecture hall. This year, the lectures are being held in 10-250, one of MIT's larger lecture halls. After the class, several members of the Student Information Processing Board (SIPB), overjoyed at the turn-out, were heard to mumble "next year — Kresge!"

Greenberg explained how he arrived at what he feels is a radical approach to the language. He did not learn it in a class. Some officemates of his happened

to be writing a version of MacLISP for Multics and offered to teach it to him. Now he is in charge of maintaining that version of Lisp.

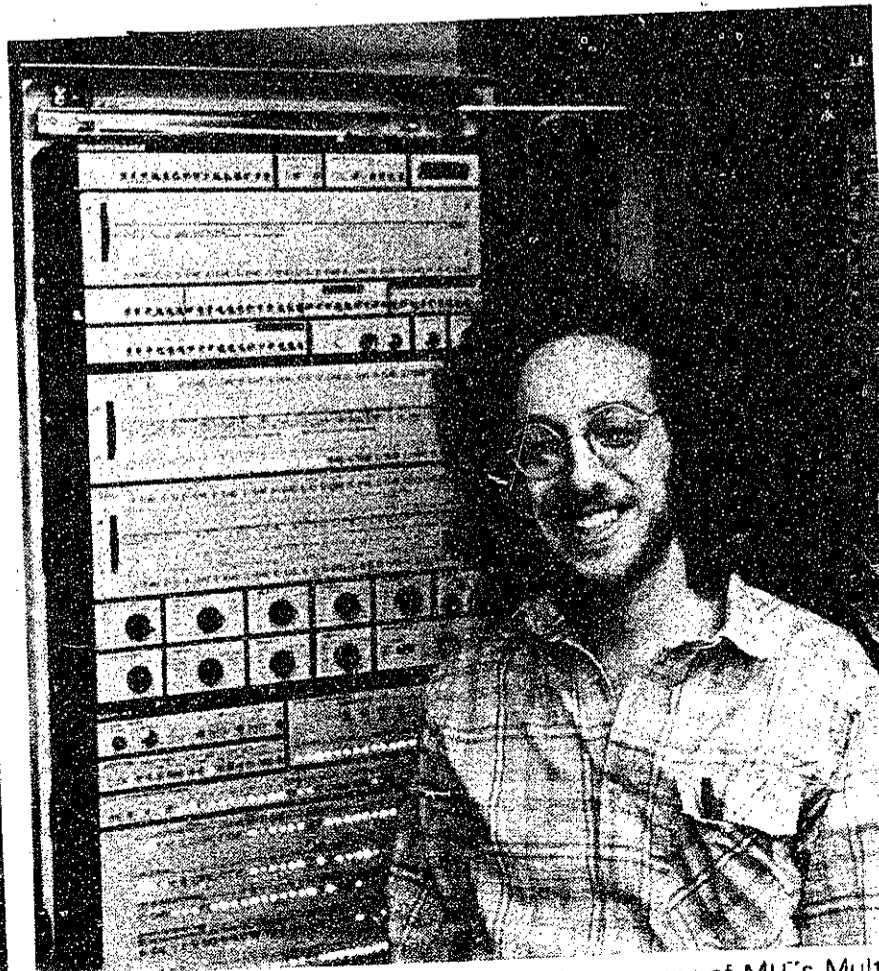
All of the existing approaches other than his own are either too "mathematical" or too "functional" in their approach, said Greenberg. They get bogged down in formal definitions and ignore certain features about the more basic elements of data structure, which he feels are much more important.

By the end of the course, with the help of the set of notes he has been building and revising for several years, he hopes to take his

students "through the construction of a reasonably complex program."

There is lab time associated with the course, provided by SIPB. About 75 percent of the students applied for an account on Multics, each of whom will receive fifty dollars worth of time on Multics to practice what Greenberg is preaching.

Preaching? About halfway through the lecture, one student asked if this would be a class in theology. Greenberg smiled enthusiastically. He is trying to convert everyone to his way of thinking: speaking to a computer with a Lisp.



Bernard Greenberg in front of the central processor of MIT's Multics computer system. (Photo by Steven L. Solnick)

Services to honor Martin Luther King

By Michael Taviss

MIT will hold services honoring the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. this Friday. The ceremonies will begin with a silent march at approximately noon from Lobby 7 to Kresge Auditorium. After the invocation and two musical selections, the Reverend Melvin G. Brown of the Union Baptist Church in Cambridge will deliver the keynote address. After the address there will be a benediction and then a reception in the Mezzanine Lounge of the Student Center.

Dr. King, an outspoken champion of civil rights, was assassinated on April 4, 1968, in Memphis, Tennessee at the age of 39. The Institute will be officially closed on Monday, January 15 in observance of his birthday.

The theme of the Reverend Brown's address on Friday will be

"The Dream: When Will We Overcome?" The services were arranged by the MIT Minority Interest Group and the Office of the President and Chancellor.

Josephine M. Bartie, who is connected with the Office of the President and Chancellor and is the co-chairman of the Minority Interest Group, will be the mistress of ceremonies. She said that members of the MIT community are invited to gather in Lobby 7 at 11:45 to participate in the silent march and the ensuing services.

"All are welcome," according to Ms. Bartie. She added that "This isn't actually a religious service. It just so happens that the keynote speaker is a minister."

The invocation and the benediction will be given by Reverend Kathleen M. Gatson, also of the Union Baptist Church. This is the fifth year that MIT is honoring King in this manner.

news roundup

World

Civilian government in Iran — The Shah of Iran met the country's new civilian government in Tehran on Saturday, January 7. This government will be headed by prime minister-designate Shapour Bakhtiar. Meanwhile, it is reported that the Shah has finally indicated he will leave the country for a while. He was quoted as saying "I am very tired and in need of medical attention I cannot get in this country." It is not known yet where he will go. Observers believe he will come to the US where part of his family is already residing.

Cambodian capital taken by rebels — Radio Hanoi reported that the Vietnamese-backed Cambodian National United Front for National Salvation marched into Phnom Penh over the weekend, overthrew the Pol Pot regime and gained control over most of Cambodia. The whereabouts of the Cambodian prime minister, Pol Pot, are not known.

Israel to admit 100 Indochinese refugees — The Israeli government has announced its decision to take 100 Indochinese refugees to new homes in Israel. Opponents of the decision are split into two groups. One group argues that the number offered homes is too small and would hardly help in the Indochinese refugee problem, while the other claims that this gesture would tax Israel's capacity to handle its own problems.

Nation

Ford in Boston — Former president Gerald Ford criticized the Carter Administration for "uncertain and inconsistent" policy toward the Shah of Iran. His criticism was delivered in a Boston news conference. However, he praised Carter for the normalization of relations with China, saying it would have been on his own agenda if he had been elected in 1976.

Not many will retire at 70 — According to US Labor Department employment experts, most Americans will still retire before the new mandatory retirement age of 70. Over the past years trend has developed for people to retire earlier — not later. Improved private pension plans and increased social-security benefits have spurred workers to leave jobs early. It is also thought that a ready availability of full-time or part-time jobs has encouraged this trend.

— By Elias Towe

Party

Out there in the Atlantic Ocean on a sunshine beach there's going to be an outbreak of revelry this vacation break. And after the sun goes down . . . well, you know the effect that moonlight has on a celebration. We can only hope it won't be a full moon.

Because from Jan. 13 through April 21 we're opening Nassau and Paradise Island to a wave of American college students. We have reason to believe that wave may reach tidal proportions. Probably because of the price: \$269 including air fare and 7 nights hotel.

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- Mar. 31-Apr. 7
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- Apr. 14-Apr. 21

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TheTech

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notes



Charles Eliot (with beard in center), shown rehearsing for tonight's Shakespeare Ensemble production of *Much Ado About Nothing*, was named MIT's most recent Rhodes Scholar last month. Eliot, a Canadian citizen, said he had wanted to go to Oxford since the tenth grade. He will be studying the nuclear magnetic resonance of enzymes. This was not always his primary interest, though. He spent two years studying music at the National Conservatory of Greece, and said that when he was younger he had wanted to be an astronaut. "It seemed all astronauts went to either MIT or CalTech, so I just applied to those two." Eliot said he was still "shellshocked," but "glad I don't have to worry about it any more." (Photo courtesy of Shakespeare Ensemble)

* An open forum for all undergraduate campus residents will be held 3-5pm on Wed., Jan. 17, in the Brown Living Room of McCormick Hall. The purpose of this open forum is to meet with the Program Planning Group which has been formed to prepare recommendations for the building program of a new undergraduate residence. Residents from all Institute Houses are encouraged to attend this open forum to express their opinions and recommendations on what the internal programs and facilities of this new dorm should be. If you are unable to attend, feel free to write down your comments and send them to Robert A. Sherwood, Associate Dean for Student Affairs, room 7-133, before January 23, 1979, since this process of program development must be concluded by the end of January.

* A demonstration of on-line literature searching and retrieval from bibliographic files covering electrical engineering, computers, and control will be given January 19 from 11am-1pm in Room 406, Laboratory for Information and Decision Systems. Related literature files specializing in technical reports, citation searching, doctoral dissertations, and funded research will also be demonstrated.

This is an activity of the Libraries' On-line Search Service, NASIC. Bring specific research questions (subject topics, authors, organizations, etc.) and get a free mini-bibliography.

* There will be an organizational meeting for all people interested in working on R/O '79 Monday, Jan. 22 in room 7-105.

* The Department of Political Science has established the Jeffrey L. Pressman Award, in memorium of Professor Jeffrey L. Pressman. The deadline for the award for Summer of 1979 is February 15. All juniors are invited to apply for the \$1350 grant which will be awarded for a special project in American government and politics.

? ? ?

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IAP Activity 641
Ashdown House 2nd Floor Lounge
Tuesdays: Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, at 8 PM

(NOTE
TIME
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US-China exchange explored

(Continued from page 1)

Chairman of the Boston Chapter of the National Association of Chinese-Americans, coordinated the symposium. He read a letter from Massachusetts Senator Edward Kennedy saying that Kennedy strongly supported the normalization of relations with China while assuring the peace and prosperity of Taiwan.

Moderator for this symposium was Professor of Political Science Eugene Skolnikoff, Director of the Center for International Studies at MIT. The National Association of Chinese-Americans' Boston Chapter and the MIT Center for International Studies sponsored the symposium.

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For example: a very popular model may sell at the suggested price, but frequently cars will sell for less, because the automobile business is highly competitive.

The difference between the "sticker price" and the wholesale price—that's what the dealer pays us—is called the markup, or dealer's discount. This changes from time to

time, but as a general rule the markup on small cars is lower than on full-size cars.

The dealer's markup helps to pay his rent, taxes, salaries, utility bills—all that it costs to run a business. And he also has to make a profit, or he can't stay in business. Last year, GM dealers reported about two cents profit on each dollar of sales. As you can see, competition doesn't leave the average dealer a very big margin of profit.

You can affect the price you pay. It depends on the marketplace, for one thing. You may get a bigger break if you choose a slower-selling model or a car the dealer already has in stock. The latest sales figures published in many newspapers will give you some idea of how cars are selling, although the demand for a particular model may be greater or less in your area.

How much optional equipment you order on your car also makes a big difference in its price. Go over the list carefully, and equip the car just the way you want it. Then it will have most value for you, and you'll enjoy it more. You shouldn't buy what you won't use, although much of the equipment you add to your

new car will make it worth more when you decide it's time to trade it in.

Most buyers trade in a used car when they buy a new one. And the value of used cars varies according to demand as well as to their condition. Performance and appearance count, so it's a good idea to maintain your car and keep it clean. The more you can get for your old car, the less will be your out-of-pocket cost to replace it with a new one.

But whichever car you choose, the price should never be your only consideration. The dealer's reputation and his service capability are also important.

Our interest is in helping both you and the dealer to get a fair deal. We want you to be satisfied with your car. That's good for you, good for the dealer, and good for us.

This advertisement is part of our continuing effort to give customers useful information about their cars and trucks and the company that builds them.

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Opinion

USC from Cambridge

IAP course capers

Editor's note: USC from Cambridge is an infrequent contributor to The Tech.

I was just glancing at the 1979 IAP Final Guide the other day, and I noticed that although the course selection was certainly broad, a few of the subjects I had hoped would be covered were not. Anyway, here are some sure-fire courses I'd like to see:

12/25
The Art of Gift Giving
 S. Claus x3-1225

Ever had to buy a gift for the man who has everything? Tired of long lines at Filene's? Tired of traffic on Christmas Eve? Learn how to handle problems like these in this quick survey of toys, togs, and trinkets for literally everyone in the world. You'll also learn how to supplement your annual income by ringing your chimes on crowded streets. Bring your own bell and reindeer. This activity meets at the North Pole.

\$45,000,000
Intensive Body Building
 C. Kent
 People to contact with questions:
 L. Lane or J. Olsen at *The Daily Planet*

From a mild-mannered weakling to a veritable superman in the time it takes to make a phone call. Applicants should have no fear of flying.

\$15,000,000 (in debt)
Principles of Urban Fiscal Mis-Management
 D. Kucinich
 Guest Lecturer: John Lindsay

The dynamics and methods behind the total financial collapse of a modern metropolis. Examples will be drawn from real life situations. The course will include several lab sessions where students will have the opportunity to experiment with what they've learned, courtesy of the Cambridge City Council. Participants are warned not to try the methods they learn on a personal scale since they may be held legally responsible.

950+
Create Your Own Religion
 Prof. D. Etee

We will deal with the logistics of organizing a religion. Includes a discussion of fundraising schemes, fabrication of dogma, and how to have your house declared a church for tax-evasion purposes. The class will deduce the truths of the universe in synetics style. Nectar will be served following the seminar. Class meets in the Angel Suite Lounge of the Messiah Complex.

32
Foreign Policy for the Epicure
 Prof. Julia Child Brzezinski

A spicy offering which will explore the cuisine of international politics. Relive the immortal Battle of Waterloo, staged between Beef Ellington and Napoleon's pastries. Learn why the Americans are throwing SALT over their shoulders in the hope of signing a new treaty with the Russians. Asian studies will feature Roast Taiwan served on Red China. Bring appetites to the Center for International Stewing, Room 48-225.

MD
Basic Surgery for Laymen
 Dr. S.Q. Hackenbush

This simple laboratory will teach you all that is necessary to practice popular surgery on your own. Specific topics covered will be: how to create an Elvis Presley look-a-like, heart transplants in five easy steps, and beginning cloning. Classes will meet in the infirmary, regular visitation is preferred. (See also course Catch 22: How to Avoid Malpractice Suits.)

1990
You, too, Can Be An Institute President
 Person to contact with questions:
 Jerry

The Corporation Joint Advisory Committee for Institute-Wide Affairs is presently screening applicants for a major administrative post to be named later. Anyone interested in a prestigious, well-paying and relatively easy job is urged to apply. First interviews will be held in the President's Room of the Cambridge Howard Johnson's.

Just a few ideas, I guess. Have a wonderful IAP, go to as many activities as you can, and don't forget the courses that *could* have been.



feedback

MIT Rabbi replies to ad

To the editor:

The juxtaposition of Joseph Weinstein's letter on religious pluralism and the paid advertisement by a group of Christian proselytizers suggests an incongruity that warrants a response. Jewish beliefs are being discussed in many quarters, from the street vendors hawking their wares, to the pages of *thursday*, and perhaps even among the readers of *The Tech*. To the proselytizers, I offer the following letter (prepared by Plymouth Lodge, B'nai B'rith):

"We know that you, like many evangelical Christians, are probably motivated by the best of intentions. You bear a religious message that is so meaningful to you that you feel called upon to share it with others. We respect your desire to share. We admire your sincerity and your diligence. *BUT*, we cannot accept the teaching you proclaim. We are Jews and, like you, are bearers of a message. Our religion offers a complete and satisfying faith to anyone who earnestly strives to live in accordance with its teachings.

You may therefore wonder why we do not evangelize, as you do. First of all, we are always willing to welcome into the Jewish fold individuals who wholeheartedly attach themselves to God, to Torah, and to Israel. Though we are happy to share our traditions and teachings with others, we do not actively seek converts, as you do. Our rabbis and leaders concentrate instead on bringing the truth of our religion to our fellow Jews. While we maintain that the Jewish religion is best for Jews, we do not believe that any religion has a patent on truth. As our sages taught: The righteous of all nations have a share in the world to come.

Evangelical Christians at times try to convince Jews of the claims of Christianity by referring to the Old Testament which, Christians believe has been fulfilled in the New Testament. Thus you may attempt to speak to us in terms of our own Bible. We must tell you that we have no "Old Testament." You call it Old because you have an additional one that is "New." But we have, simply, our Bible, the Jewish Bible.

The Christian New Testament, is not authoritative scripture for us. We believe, moreover, that when you interpret our Bible in the light of the New Testament, then you are imposing meanings on our Scripture that just are not there.

We do not believe in a doctrine of original sin.

We do not believe that personal salvation and eternal life should be overriding concerns in one's life.

We do not believe that God is best understood as a trinity, a concept which we find both ar-

bitrary and incompatible with our affirmation of God's oneness.

We do not recognize Jesus of Nazareth as the Messiah.

The Messianic Age, in our view, will be marked not only by fulfillment for individuals, but also by redemption for all oppressed peoples, and by the establishment of an era of peace for all humanity.

The Messianic Age will come to pass in this world! Whatever else may be, in our view, the Messianic Age will at least be a this-worldly happening.

You affirm a covenantal relationship to God; and we can acknowledge that your covenant may be valid and binding for you as ours is for us.

Can you not reciprocate? Can you not acknowledge and respect the integrity of our faith and the vitality of our covenant?"

I would be happy to discuss these matters with any and all seekers.

Rabbi Daniel R. Shevitz
Jewish Chaplain

"Excerpts" misleads

To the editor:

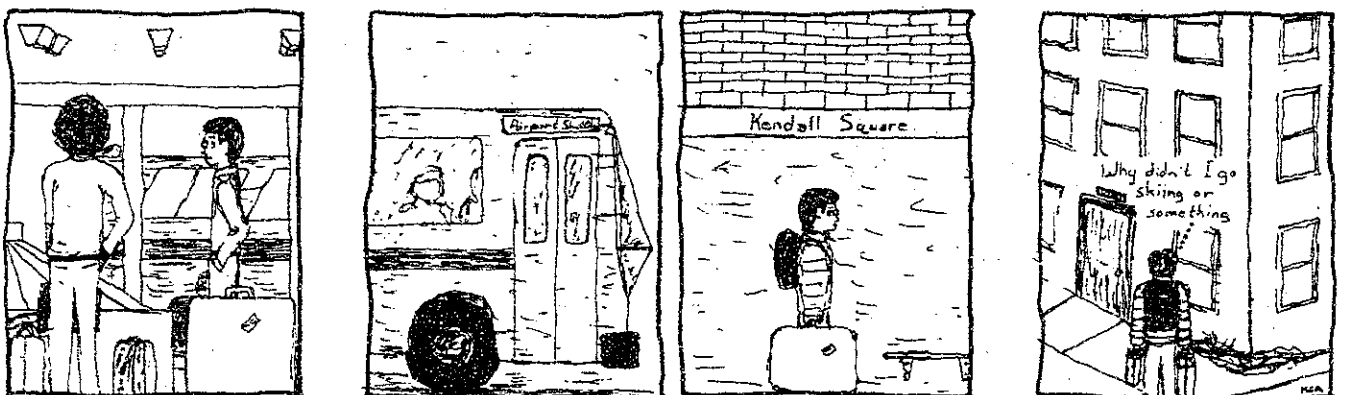
I am writing in regard to your obviously slanted "Excerpts" column published Friday October 27. The obvious point of your column was the arousal of dissent against the Christian cause. (Or the *Stanford Daily* depending on your point of view). I find this deplorable journalism on your part. A true Christian is one who respects the life and desires of all men, whether or not he follows them or not. No true Christian could ever force his ideals on another person. Christianity grew from that after the Spanish Inquisition, and all of today's Christians look back upon that era as

the dark ages of the church. However, we do not want anyone to force their ideas upon us. This country was built on the principle of "freedom of religion." In conclusion, the campaigns of a few activists mentioned in "Excerpts," by their very nature as destructive campaigns are not born out of true Christianity. As Christ himself said, "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." Using this as a rational basis, I submit that you have not portrayed the true Christian cause through your journalism and therefore I am writing this letter.

Michael Varrell '79

Paul Hubbard

by Kent C. Massey



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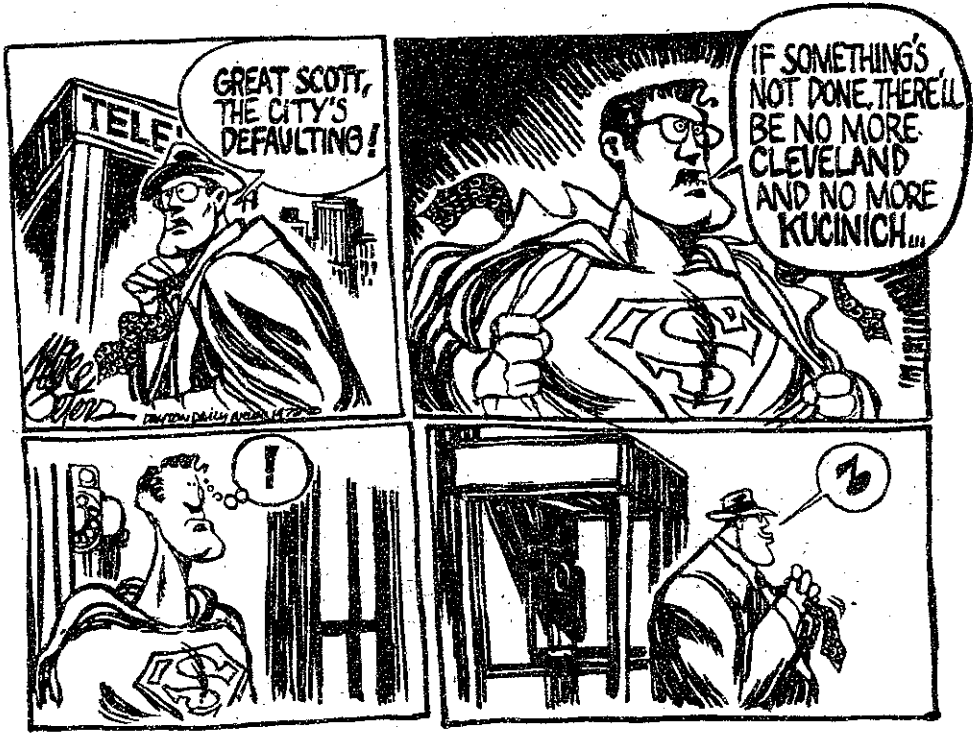
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opinion cont.

Mike Seton

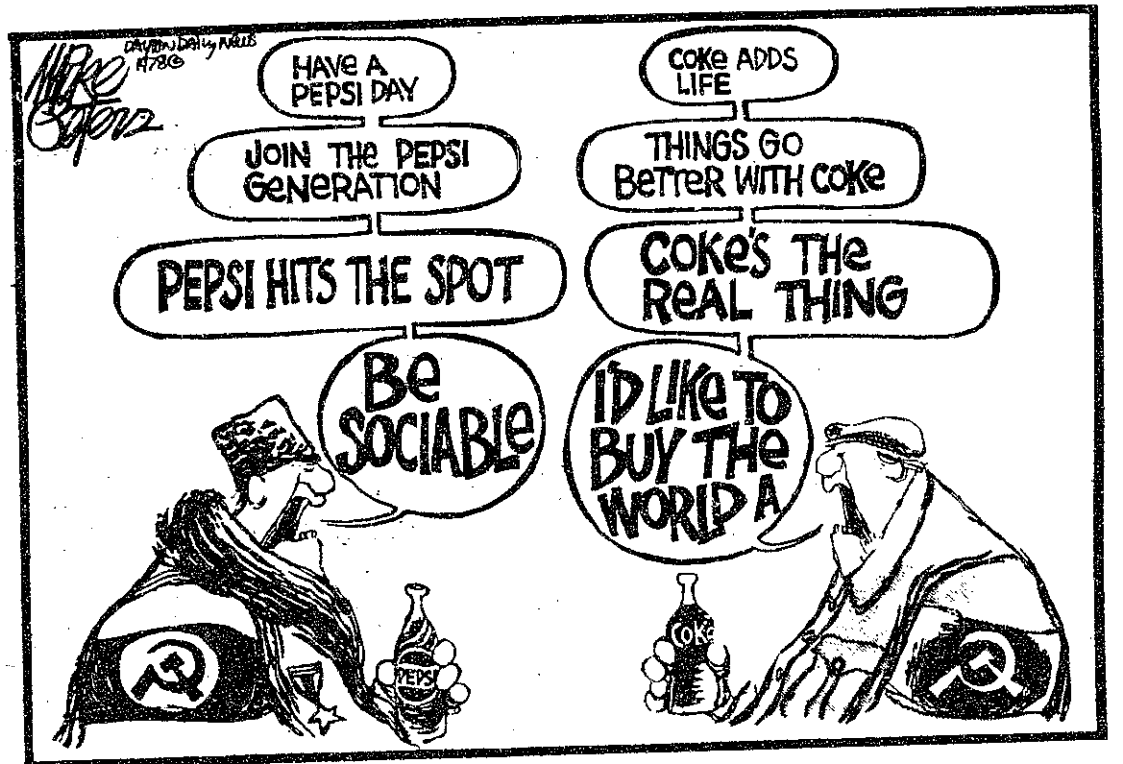
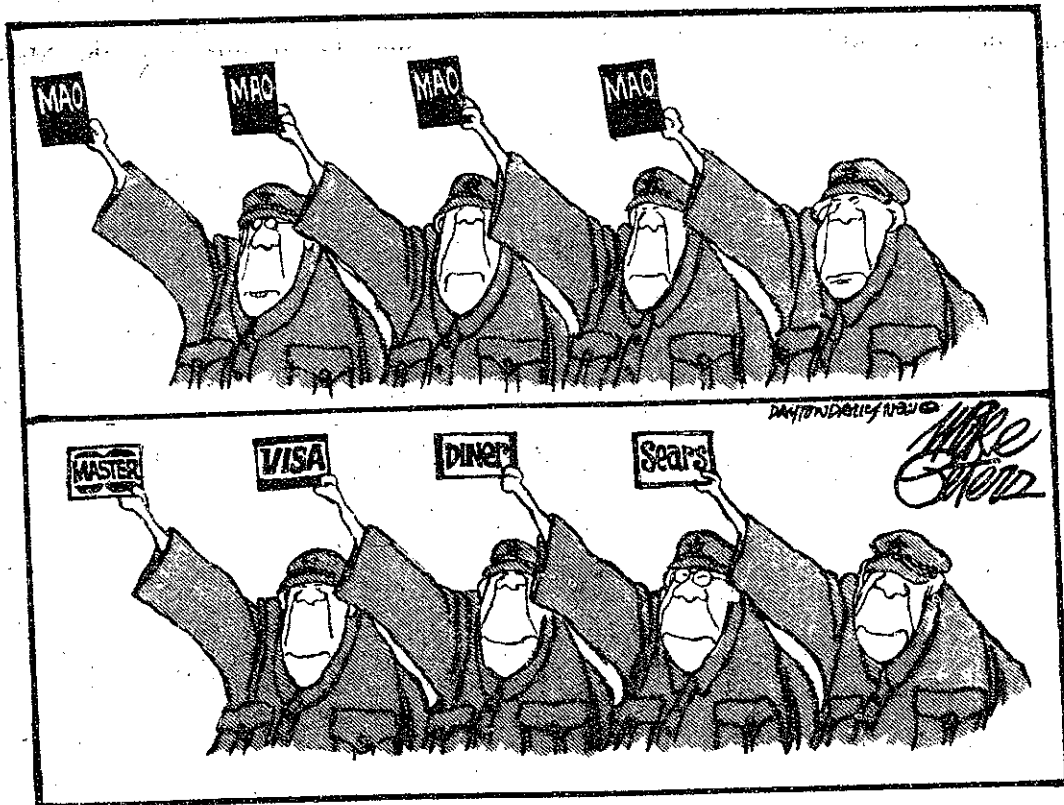
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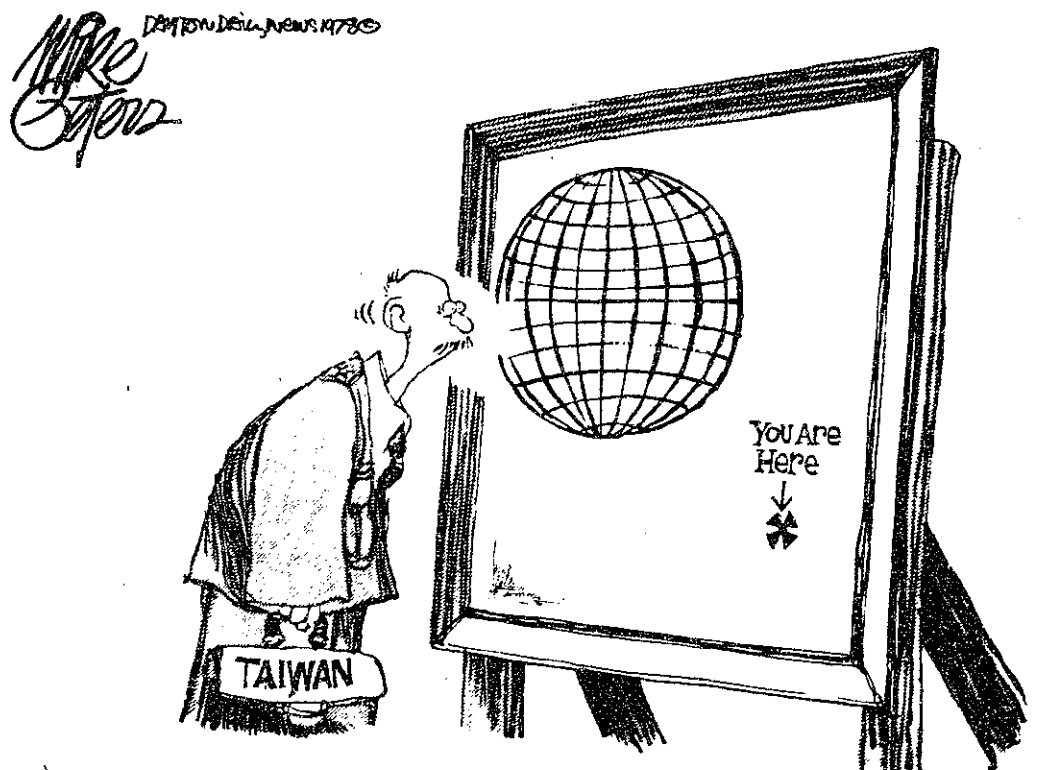


IT'S FROM JUNIOR... HE'S RUN OFF TO JOIN THE CLEVELAND CITY COUNCIL...

China:



... and Taiwan:



"Instant" portraiture at Hayden Gallery

By Leigh J. Passman

If you can remember the anxious pleasure of peeling apart the negative and positive faces of old Polaroid type 4 by 5 inch prints you will get a tremendous kick out of what is going on this month in MIT's Hayden Gallery.

A 20 by 24 inch format camera with Polaroid's conventional instant development process is being publicly demonstrated for the first time.

Focusing on Faces (IAP activity #411), an artist-in-residency program, brings together contemporary artists who are primarily painters with today's most modern and impressive large scale photographic technique. Using two of only four enormous hand-made prototype 20 by 24 inch format frame cameras in existence, the artists are creating startlingly vivid and incredibly resolute contact prints on a scale few artists have ever known off a canvas.

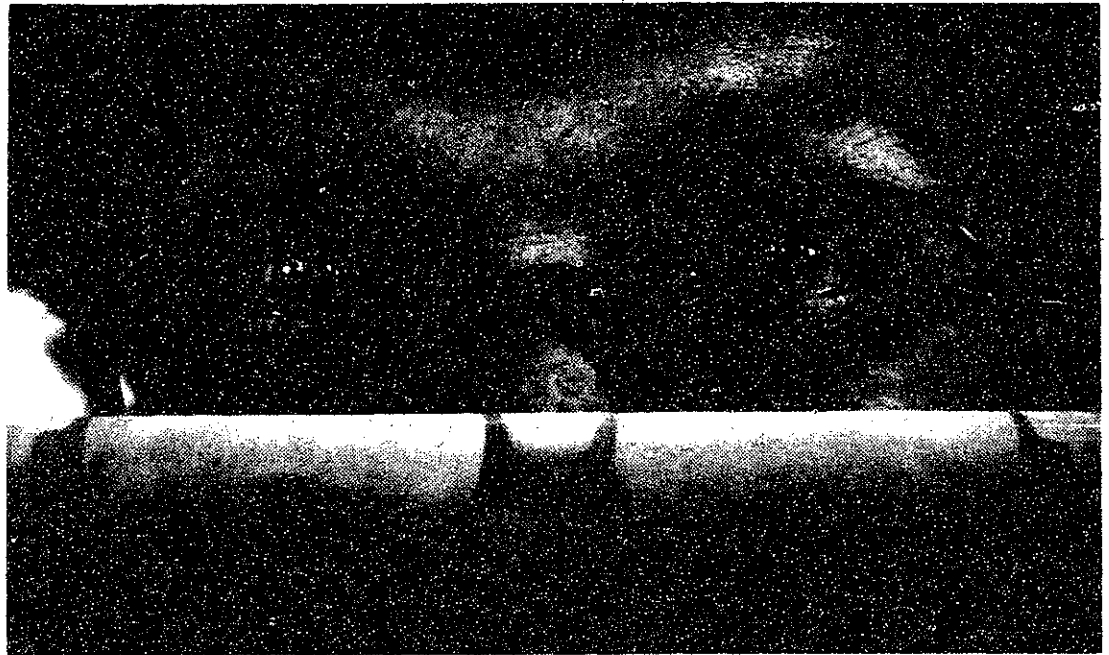
Although it takes only approx. 90 seconds, depending on exposure and temperature parameters, for a photograph to develop, the artist may spend up to several hours composing the arrangement of subjects, and perfecting the lighting and exposure.

The Hayden Gallery has been transformed into an artist's studio. It has been segmented into an exhibition area and two sets — complete with scaffolds for cameras and lights. Each artist chooses his own models, designs his own sets, and, with the assistance of a Polaroid technical staff, creates the lighting and determines the camera's exposure parameters.

Joel Janowitz, a Boston area artist, completed his week-long residency yesterday. Today Jim Dine begins his five day residency, and he will be followed by Chuck Close from January 17 to 20. Students from the Visible Language Workshop and the Creative Photography Laboratory will experiment with the equipment January 16 and 22 respectively.

The gallery is open to the public from noon to 2pm. During this time the artist and Polaroid's staff will be available to discuss both the technological and aesthetic nuances and implications of this new science and art form. In addition, selected examples of the artist's work will be on display in the exhibition area of the gallery.

According to CVA Projects Director Kathy Halbreich, who worked with Polaroid to bring the program to MIT,



response to the exhibition has been excellent. During the two hour exhibition period an average of over one hundred visitors have viewed the work-in-progress. Among these visitors have been Dr. Edwin Land, founder and Chairman of Polaroid Corporation and a delegation of students and professors from Rochester

University.

The program is sponsored by the Committee on the Visual Arts with grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the generous support of Polaroid Corporation. For further information call the Committee of the Visual Arts at x3-4400.

Brinsley Schwarz: an intriguing retrospective

Brinsley Schwarz Anthology EMI/Capitol SWBC-11869

By Claudia Perry

Brinsley Schwarz could be the unsung laboratory group of the Seventies. From its ranks emerged Nick Lowe, the English New Wave's Phil Spector. Brinsley Schwarz and Bob Andrews make up two-thirds of the Rumour, Graham Parker's back-up group.

With the current surge of interest in Lowe and the Rumour, it comes as no surprise that Capitol released a compilation of Brinsley Schwarz' first two albums just in time for the holidays. *Brinsley Schwarz*, as the two-record set is cleverly entitled, is worthwhile to own if you're curious about Nick Lowe's past.

Since none of the songs have instrumental credits, it is hard to judge the com-

petency of Brinsley Schwarz' members: The musicianship is consistently good but few personal touches can be heard. This facelessness works to the group's advantage. Their music flows from country and western to English traditional with no lapse in proficiency.

One reason for the band's unified approach is Nick Lowe. Penning all but two of the songs, his songwriting is on the mark most of the time. Lowe's feel for the ridiculous that vaulted him to prominence on *Pure Pop for Now People* is gaining polish here.

"Hymn to Me," the group collaboration that opens the album, gives no indication of Brinsley Schwarz' talent for synthesizing pop styles. The song is dirgelike. Only diehards will be able to listen to it more than once.

Fortunately the album picks up immediately. "Shining Brightly" is lyrically a country and western parody. Many English groups have fielded entries in this race. "Brightly" compares favorably with both the Kinks' "Muswell Hillbillies" and the Stones' "Dear Doctor."

"Shining Brightly" is a perfect example of the early Seventies. The lyrics suggest that the song should be given a straight country and western treatment, complete with weepy pedal steel guitar and faked

Tennessee twang. Instead the band chooses an almost traditional arrangement, which makes the song more intriguing.

"Lady Constant," the closing cut on the first side, shows another failing on the compiler's part. Since there are no individual vocal credits given, one cannot be sure who is responsible for the sharp four-part harmonies, but blame for the plodding arrangement can be placed entirely on Nick Lowe, who wrote the tune.

Describing each of the fifteen songs on *Brinsley Schwarz* would be pointless. Besides leaving nothing for one to discover, the band's influences would read like a laundry list of the great and near-great. The band's eclecticism is subdued but evident. At first listen, they sound like a combination of the Hollies Steeleye Span and the Byrds.

Unfortunately this combination was unleashed on the world at a time that could best be considered inappropriate. Most of the music coming from Great Britain in the early seventies was more forceful than Brinsley's efforts. Competing with bands like Cream and Led Zeppelin, it is no wonder that Brinsley Schwarz was sort of lost in the shuffle. With Capitol's release of *Brinsley Schwarz* perhaps the band will be remembered for what it produced, not who.



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arts cont.

The year's best (and worst) in movies

By Shawn Wilson

Of the dozens of movies that premiered in 1978, *The Tech's* reviewers have given their opinion on the twenty-one listed below.

- **The Boys From Brazil** — "Technically excellent... an exceptional work of art."
- **FM** — "Excellent... definitely worth seeing."

Women's Room: is there room for men?

The Women's Room, a novel by Marilyn French. 687 pp. Jove/Harcourt Brace Jovanovich. \$2.50.

By Joel West

It would be easy enough to dismiss this book as a feminist manifesto, a book of women, by a woman, for women — a female declaration of independence, neither the first nor the last. As such, it would lose at least half of its potential audience, more here at MIT. But consciously or subconsciously, French spouts general truths right and left while elucidating her central theme. *The Women's Room*, though clearly not for everyone, is a powerful psychological drama with perhaps more to offer a 20ish college student than a 40ish displaced homemaker-turned-academic who has already lived through such things.

The story centers around Mira Ward, born at the beginning of the depression; the story is divided between New Jersey suburban housewives of the 50's and early 60's and graduate students at Harvard starting in 1968.

It is unclear just how autobiographical the book is; what is clear is that French, a Harvard PhD herself, displays great courage in writing her first novel; while conveying her message, she leaves her own emotional self open, bare for all to see.

Mira and the omniscient narrator are constantly plagued with self-doubt, and question societal values only when given no other choice; the author uses other characters to vent their anger and bit-

● **Coma** — "Exciting thriller... plausible, well written and acted."

● **The Lord of the Rings** — "Awesome spectacle... enjoyable for one who is familiar with the book but confusing to one who is not... probably the state of the art in animation."

● **An Unmarried Woman** — "A skillfully designed glimpse at the pain of divorce..."

terness. Val, an activist friend at Harvard, pulls no punches: "... in their relations with women, all men are rapists, and that's all they are." For any man who takes offense at this outburst, 600 pages into the book, the whole point of *The Women's Room* has been lost; Val's rage at being condemned to a second-class existence by a patriarchal society should be easily understandable.

Certainly the book has faults. Borrowed from a Lina Wertmuller movie, the women are saintly while the men are bastards: Mira's ideal lover finally turns out to be a selfish male chauvinist pig and the major characters discover that happiness and men are, in the end, mutually incompatible. But the narrator admits that, just as male novelists have trouble portraying female characters, so she is unable to make her men more than stick figures.

Women's liberation has made great strides since the period that forms the setting for this book. Among adolescents of the 70's, especially the (largely middle-class) intellectual elite, the idea that jobs should be open to women as well as men has gained at least moderate acceptance. But for anyone with the delusion that men and women of our generation have an equal chance at a future, especially those hoping for an "equal marriage," this book is must reading. One of French's characters sums it up: "But the institutions get us all in the end. Nobody escapes." Personally, I can only hope that French's prophecy does not have the pinpoint accuracy of some of her psychological insights.

an acting triumph for Jill Clayburgh."

● **Watership Down** — "Enchanting and thoroughly disarming fairy tale for adults."

● **The Wiz** — "Colorful, warm, exciting, and memorable recreation of *The Wizard of Oz*."

● **Animal House** — "Expect a lot of toga parties."

● **Coming Home** — "A mawkish love story which serves as the medium for a sympathetic and tenuous study of the emotional effects of war."

● **Death on the Nile** — "A little slow-moving... a satisfying visual experience."

● **Giulfriends** — "A low-budget gem."

● **Grease** — "Don't go in expecting a great movie; just sit back and enjoy the fifties."

● **King of the Gypsies** — "Very moving story... emotional action packed."

● **Midnight Express** — "Uneven... Director Alan Parker has taken an engrossing real-life drama and has transformed it into only a shadow of the movie it could have been."

● **Slow Dancing in the Big City** — "Pretty but implausible... The chauvinistic fantasy of a man rapidly approaching middle age."

● **A Wedding** — "Gaudy but simple, flashy but unpretentious... a panoramic vision of the last of our culture's big rituals."

● **Comes A Horseman** — "Lacks clarity... flawed and yet strangely moving."

● **F.I.S.T.** — "Quite suspenseful and enjoyable in spite of its shortcomings."

● **Revenge of the Pink Panther** — "Just another Pink Panther."

● **Rabbit Test** — "Cheaply made and poorly put together."

● **The Fury** — "Brian DePalma hasn't put anything into the movie worth seeing."

In later issues will appear reviews of *Superman*, *The Brink's Job*, *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*, *California Suite*, and *Same Time, Next Year*.

happenings

AROUND MIT

The Shakespeare Ensemble will revive its fall production of **Much Ado About Nothing**. Performances will be January 10 and 11 at 8pm in the Little Theatre, Kresge Auditorium. All seats are \$2.50. For reservations or information call 253-2903.

AT THE MOVIES

This Week's LSC Lineup

● **Rollerball** Wed., 7 & 10pm, 26-100.

● **Fiddler on the Roof** Fri., 6:30 & 10pm, Kresge.

● **The Sound of Music** Sat., 6 & 10 pm, 26-100.

● **Romeo and Juliet** (Zeffirelli) Sun., 7 & 10pm, 10-250.

Opening Wednesday, January 10 and continuing until January 30 at Off the Wall will be **Magic Movies IV**, Off the Wall's

showcase of the best in new and classic animation.

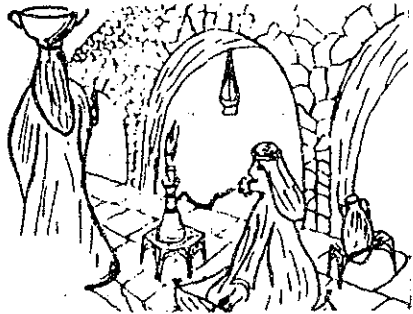
Heading the list of *Magic Movies IV* is Zdenko Gaparovic's *Satiemania*, a satirical potpourri of impressions abetted by the music of Erik Satie. A tour de force, *Satiemania* won the Grand Prix at the Zagreb International Animation Festival and took Second Prize at Ottawa. James Picker's *Jimmy the C* earned an Academy Award nomination by spoofing Georgia's favorite son. David LeBrun's *Tanka* takes a kinesthetic journey with ancient gods and demons through realms of air, earth, water and fire — the image world of the Tibetan Book of the Dead. John Wokuluk's *Magenta Grey* is an animated psychic experience, the dream state of a singular character who is hurtled spectacularly from one dimension into another.

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Dr. Daniel Yergin, Center for International Affairs, Harvard University

Prof. Henry Jacoby, Sloan School of Management, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Moderator:

Prof. William Hogan, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University

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sports

Track defeats alumni

By Lew Bender

Editor's note: Lew Bender is a member of the varsity track team.

In the seventh annual alumni meet, the MIT varsity defeated the MIT alumni, 69-44. The meet was exciting and fun-filled for both teams, the coaches, and the fans.

The alumni, wearing T-shirts with the words "has-beens" imprinted on them, had a large squad with graduation years ranging from Bob Williamson's 1959 to Reid Von Borstel's 1978. They were a relaxed and highly competitive group, and all of the Alumni athletes were in excellent shape.

The meet started off well for the varsity, as Steve Sifferlin '79 and Joe Carangelo '81 nudged out assistant coach Greg Hunter '76 and John Pearson '74 in the weight throw. The varsity pulled into a huge lead Kevin Wade '79

won the long jump, and Norm Toplosky '79 won the mile. But the alumni would not give up. Rich Okine '77 won three events: the hurdles, 58 yd dash, and the triple jump, to keep the has-beens close. Reid Von Borstel won the high jump with a leap of 6' 2". In the pole vault, assistant coach Dave Wilson '73 barely defeated Ed Ingenito '81 in what was one of the finest contests of the meet. The score at this point was 37-35, Varsity. It was as close as the alumni were to come. Jeff Lukas '82 won the 1000 yd. run, Bob Collins the two mile, and the varsity the relay, as the varsity won the meet.

Head Coach Gordon Kelly could not decide which team to support, as he had coached all of the competitors at one point or another. This victory boosted the track team's record to 3-1 on the season.



Bobby Clarke (53) snares a rebound in the first half of Monday night's basketball game against Lowell. Although the Engineers held Lowell close throughout the first half, a second half surge by the Chiefs provided them with a comfortable win, 88-70. (Photo by Steven L. Solnick)

on deck

Wednesday

Women's basketball at Gordon 7pm

Friday

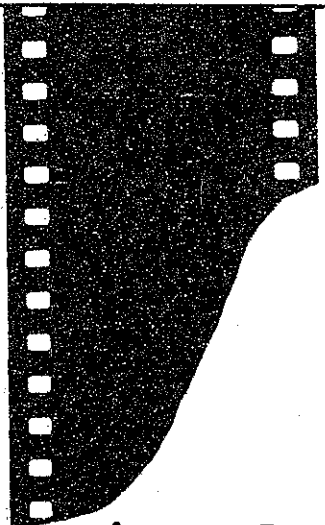
Men's basketball vs. Stevens 8pm
Hockey vs. Clark 7pm

Saturday

Basketball vs. Bates 8:15pm
Track at Williams 1pm
Wrestling vs. Lowell and Coast Guard at Harvard 1pm

Tuesday

Men's basketball vs. Wesleyan 8:15pm
Women's basketball at Clark 6:30pm



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