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## in the news

### INSIDE

The Ad Hoc Committee on Grading's final report will be published tomorrow, and will be the subject of discussion by the Committee on Educational Policy for several weeks.

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President Carter invoked the Taft-Hartley Act yesterday, ordering striking coal miners back to work for 80 days. Details in news roundup.

p3

Led by Preston Vorlicek '79, the varsity swimming team shattered four school records to capture 11th place at the New England Championships. Vorlicek's numerous high placings at the meet qualified him for the Division III National Championships for the third straight time.

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### EXCERPTS

On a rustic campus in the near future:

"Uh . . . Hi there. Didn't I see you in lab last Saturday, miss? Remember, I let you have my place in line at the spectrometer?"

"Um . . . Oh yea, yea, you were the guy who had sulfuric acid poured into your backpack."

"Not exactly. That was my ex-lab partner. But you're close. I'm Melvin. Say, I just happened to glance at your answers to last week's problem set and was wondering if you wanted to do some computing this weekend?"

"Just for the record, I'm Nellie, and frankly, my Texas instrument is on the blink."

"Who's Frank?"

"Huh?"

"Ahem, . . . uh, it just so happens I'm an electronics buff, and I'd love to fiddle with your keyboard. I've got just the right tool for adjusting your input processor."

"Well Mel, I . . . uh, sure. Why not?"

"Fine, we can grab our meals and eat them in your room. No sense wasting any time. Oh, make sure you charge up that little mathbox beforehand; it's easier to work on if it's warm."

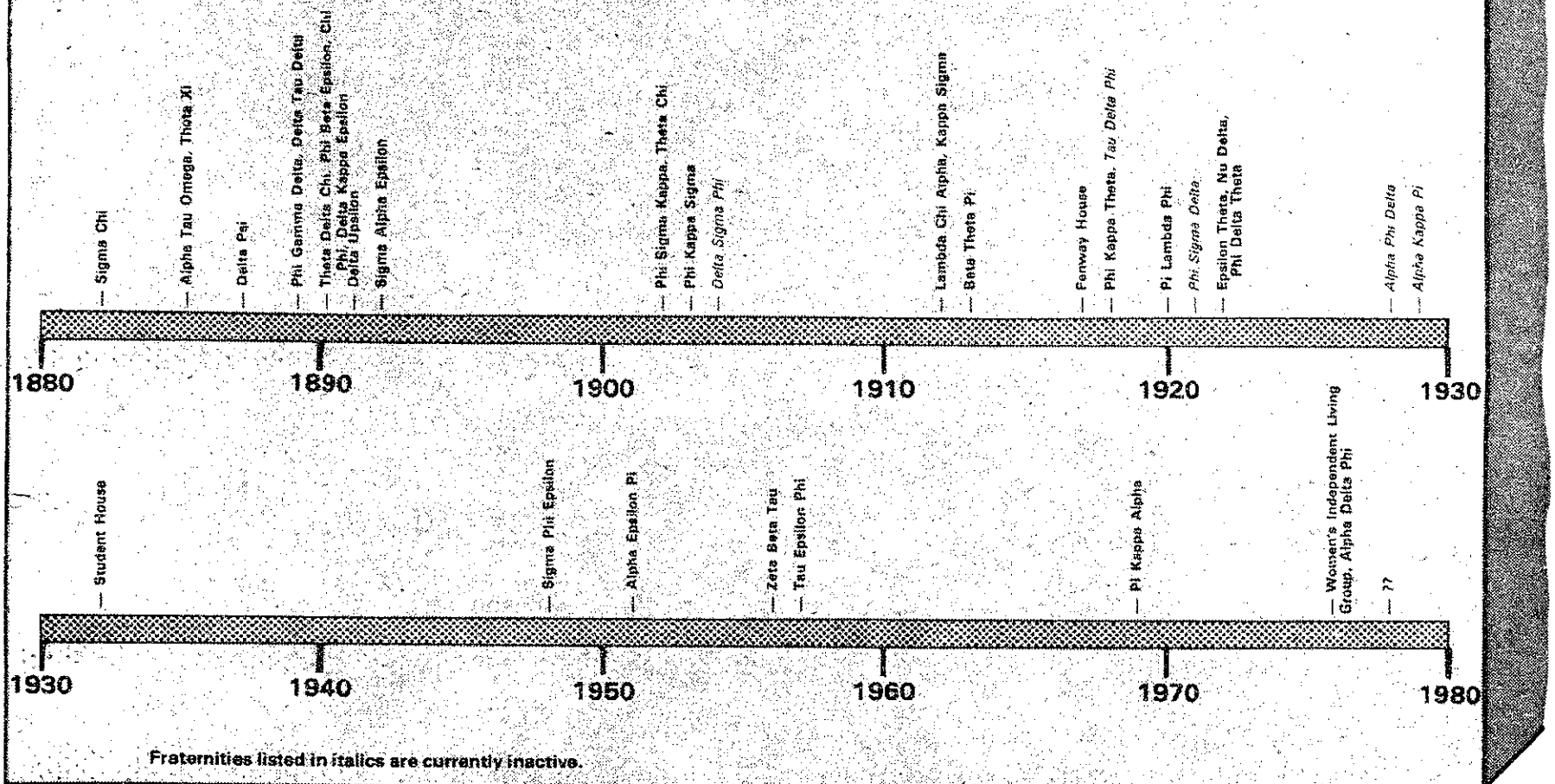
"Swell. See you around dinner-time on Friday."

The above conversation characterizes a prospective subculture of the nerd kind. Members share a paranoia based on the fear that admissions policies intentionally disfavor them.

— Stanford Daily

## New fraternity planned for next fall

### New fraternities are rarer now than they were in yesteryear



Mark J. Munkacsy

**By Barbara J. Hill**  
A new living group will be added to the present fraternity system of 32 houses, following an overwhelming vote by representatives of the Interfraternity Conference (IFC) at their February meeting.

The vote followed many months of debate between existing houses as to the relative merits of allowing another national fraternity to colonize (organize interested students with the purpose of founding a chapter of that fraternity) at MIT at this time.

Some houses were concerned that the addition of another fraternity would increase the already rigorous competition for incoming freshmen. This fall's successful rush served to convince some that there would indeed be enough students to go around, while a few others still ex-

perienced difficulty in filling their houses. These difficulties were due largely to renovations and reorganizations within the houses themselves and should not continue to be a problem. In order to insure that these houses would not be further weakened by possible competition from a new group, however, it was decided to begin the colonization after the end of Rush Week 1978 instead of this spring as originally planned. This should allow the houses to make up their losses while still permitting the student interest groups to form.

The concept of expansion first surfaced last spring when it became known that several student groups interested in forming a new fraternity chapter existed within the dormitory system. There then followed an unfortunate series of attempted

colonizations by various national fraternities who were not at first aware that all new chapters must be approved by the MIT Housing Office and by the IFC. After this misunderstanding was dealt with, an IFC Expansion Committee, chaired by IFC Vice-Chairman David Soule '79, was formed to interview nationals interested in colonizing here.

Soule explained the present state of the selection process: "The fraternity system has decided to expand by one house. The Committee is presently evaluating nationals which have been referred to us and is formulating a recommendation to be presented at the April IFC meeting." The MIT Housing Office is in favor of fraternity expansion as the addition of a new house would help to alleviate dormitory over-crowding.

Some students have raised questions as to why fraternity expansion should be regulated at all. At present, MIT has the largest and possibly strongest fraternity system in New England; Not since 1941 has a chapter folded at MIT. Some within the IFC attribute this to strong Institute support for the houses and the care taken in choosing only the strongest most supportive national fraternities for inclusion.

The system has also enjoyed a history of slow, controlled growth. According to IFC Chairman Steve Piet '78, the system has increased by "two houses in the fifties, two in the sixties, and two in the seventies so far," with the latest additions being Alpha Delta Phi and the Women's Independent Living Group.

## US gov't weighing student aid measures

**By Bob Wasserman**  
President Carter and Congress have each proposed different types of financial aid legislation for families of college students. Carter and Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare Joseph Califano would like to expand present aid programs for college youth parents, while Congress has set its sights on tuition tax credits for these families.

Several plans for tax credits to tuition-paying students have been proposed by Congress but most promising now seems to be a bill which would allow a credit of up to \$500 for each college, elementary or secondary school student in the family. The proposal was passed last week by the Senate Finance Committee after being introduced by Senators Daniel Moynihan and Robert Packwood.

Carter, along with several members of the House and the

Senate, have offered an alternate plan which would increase student assistance by almost \$1.5-billion. The President's plan would budget an additional \$165 million for the college work-student program and would also raise the median income of families eligible for student loans from \$30,000 to \$45,000. Carter also proposed extending the Basic Educational Opportunity Grant to include aid to families with annual incomes between \$16,000 and \$25,000.

Carter has opposed the Congressional plan for tuition tax credits for several reasons. The Moynihan-Packwood plan would be more expensive costing over \$4 billion. Carter also views the tax credit plan as unfocused, preferring to expand existing programs.

Along these lines Secretary Califano announced last week that stronger efforts would be made to force former students to

repay educational loans given under the National Direct Student Loan program and the Guaranteed Student Loan program. Califano said that almost 20 percent of the students receiving federal educational loans have defaulted, at a cost of \$900 million. In an effort to reduce this, HEW will review institutions which have students taking advantage of these programs, and also sponsor seminars for college business officers to urge them to collect these loans.

Califano and Carter also oppose the Congressional tax credit bills because of their emphasis on aiding upper-middle- and higher-income families; Carter's program would benefit medium-income families, according to a January report by the Congressional Budget office.

Among the supporters of Carter's plan are the presidents of

over 700 American private colleges which belong to the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities. This group met last month and put itself on record as supporting the expansion of existing programs as opposed to tuition tax credits. Key congressmen are also behind Carter's program, including Rep. William D. Ford (D-Mich.) and Sen. Claiborne Pell (D-RI) who head respective House and Senate Educational Committees.

The Administration's plan does have several drawbacks, however. The Moynihan-Packwood bill would set up deductions for parents of parochial schoolchildren, which Carter's program would not. The American Council on Education also plans to urge Congress to provide added assistance for families of high-cost private colleges students.

# Grading Committee report to be published Weds.

By Ron Newman

The long-awaited report of the Faculty's Ad Hoc Committee on Grading Policy, in formulation for over a year, is scheduled to come out this week.

The report, due to be published in tomorrow's *Tech Talk*, will recommend a redefinition of grades, the placement of grade distributions on the internal or external transcript, and the authorization for "letters of com-

mendation" which faculty could issue to no more than five percent of the students in a class.

Although the report will be presented at the March 15 faculty meeting, no formal action is expected until at least mid-April.

The Committee on Educational Policy (CEP), which received a final draft of the report last week, is "totally split" on the recommendations, according to student members, and may take no official action on them.

The Grading Committee reports directly to the faculty, so CEP endorsement is not required before the faculty considers the measures. However, the report may have considerable difficulty

obtaining faculty approval if the CEP does not stand behind it, according to Elliot Moss G, a CEP representative.

Moss said he sees the CEP as "unlikely" to endorse placing grade distributions on transcripts, and split on the question of letters of commendation.

Grade distributions on the transcript, Moss pointed out, contradict the Grading Committee's stated aim of making grades an absolute measure of acquired knowledge rather than a measure comparing students' achievements to those of their classmates.

Steve Besen '80, another student representative to the CEP, noted a fear that letters of com-

mendation "could possibly develop into a 'super-A' situation," and he declared his opposition to grade distributions on either internal or external transcripts.

The Student Committee on Educational Policy (SCEP), which includes all undergraduate CEP members, is preparing to issue a survey after the spring break asking for student opinions on grading policy and the advisory system. SCEP will be meeting Thursday night at 7:30 in W20-413 to write survey questions.

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## notes

\* The Dormitory Council will hold its elections this Thurs., March 9 at 9pm in Room 413 of the Student Center. All interested persons are urged to attend.

\* The Activities Development Board is receiving applications for capital equipment funding for student and community activities until March 13. Applications may be secured from Dean Holden's office in Room W20-345.

\* A student-faculty lecture by Digital Equipment Corp. will be held on Tues., March 14 at 3pm in the Bush Room, 10-105. Topics to be discussed include the formation of computer families at Digital and several LSI design techniques. A question and answer session will follow.

\* The Student Materials Society is offering a case of Heineken beer for the best design submitted for the Course III T-shirt, with a six-pack each going to the runners-up. Entries should be related to Materials Science and Engineering, and submitted to Room 4-134 by March 17. Winners will be announced and prizes awarded during the week after the contest closes.

\* Photographs and demonstrations by Prof. Harold E. Edgerton, selected from 40 years of investigations of natural phenomena, will be exhibited in the Margaret Hutchinson Compton Gallery from Feb. 24 through Apr. 12. The gallery, located in the Alumni Center (Room 10-110) is open to the public without charge Monday through Friday, 9 to 5.

\* Dimon Liu, an architect who recently returned from a four-week trip to the Republic of China, will discuss "Garden Architecture in Southern China" at the Boston Architectural Center, 320 Newbury Street, Boston, on Tuesday, March 7, at 8:30pm. Free.

\* Jean Mayer, President of Tufts University, will be the featured speaker at the Cambridge Forum on Wednesday, March 8, at 8pm at 3 Church Street in Harvard Square. His topic will be "Hunger and Food in the Year 2000." The Cambridge Forum is open to the public without charge.

\* Slide-tape lectures will be given at Boston University the month of March as part of a series entitled "French Civilization as Reflected in the Arts," sponsored by the Geddes Language Center. All lectures begin at 1:30pm and are held at the Boston University School of Management, Room 536, 685 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston. The lectures are given in English and French; please check date for language preference. Info: 353-2640.

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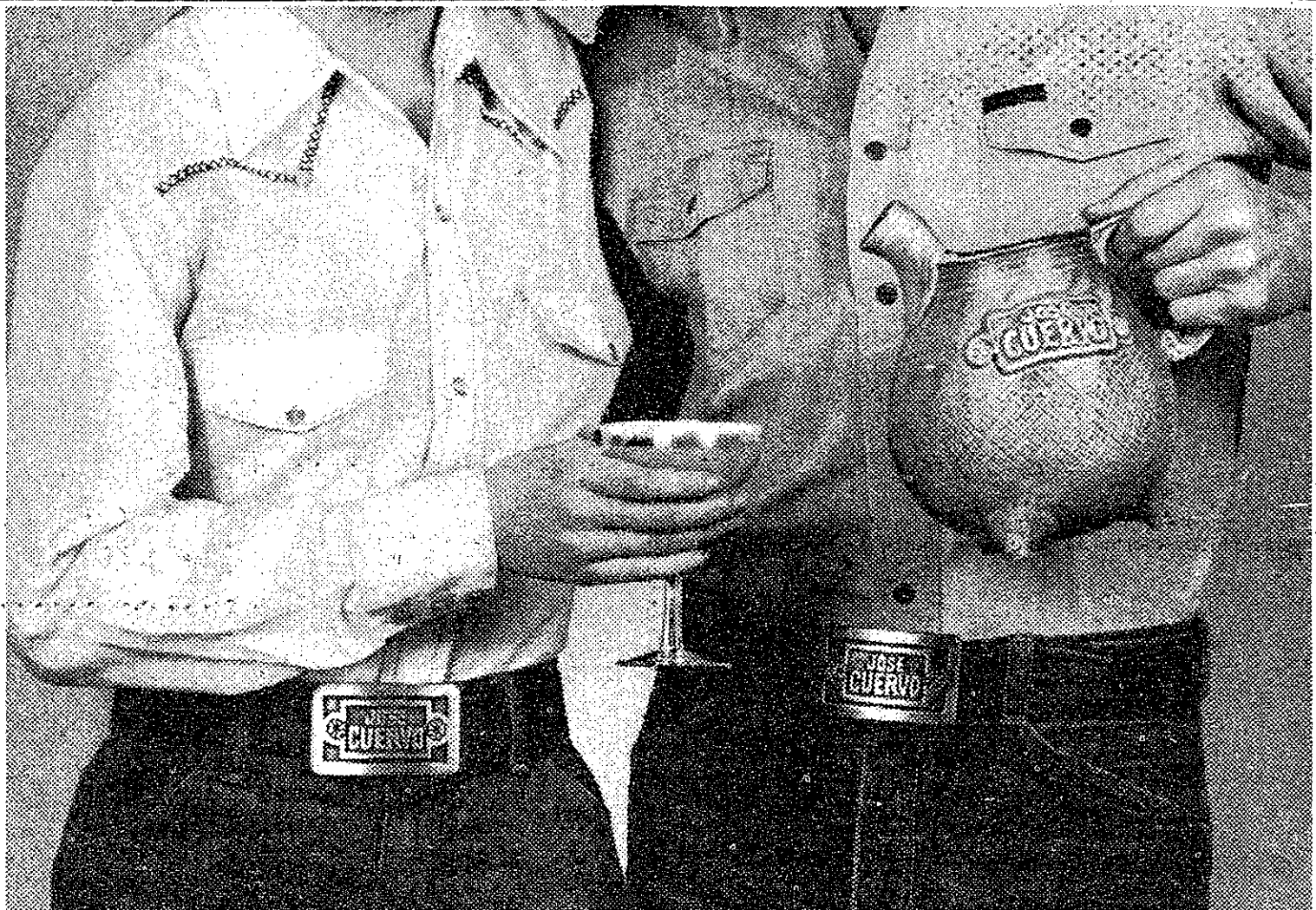
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# news roundup

**Carter Invokes Taft-Hartley Act.** President Carter appointed a board of inquiry yesterday as the first step in setting the Taft-Hartley Act into effect. The action was taken after United Mine Workers members rejected a negotiated settlement of the industry-wide strike Sunday by a 2-to-1 margin. At a Washington news conference at noon yesterday, Carter announced that an impasse had been reached in the negotiations between the UMW and the Bituminous Coal Operators Association, thereby presenting the opportunity for regional bargaining or company-by-company negotiations. Carter said that the administration will not seek to prevent any company from raising its wages. This statement was made to make the injunction more acceptable to miners since most had hoped for federal seizure of the mines.

Arnold Miller, President of the UMW, blames the media for the failure to pass the negotiated settlement. Miller stated that he is not optimistic about a return to the bargaining table. In addition, he expects violence on the coal fields since the miners have not reached agreement in deciding whether or not to go back to work.

— Kenneth Hamilton

# Blood drive starts tomorrow

By David B. Koretz

Early appointment returns for the Spring MIT-Red Cross Blood Drive which begins tomorrow have been disappointing so far, but the drive's sponsors are hopeful that there will be an increase in interested donors once the drive gets underway.

Because about 400 members of the MIT community gave blood during the emergency "Blizzard Blood Drive" last month and many gave at the Kenmore Red Cross center, these people will be ineligible for this week's drive.

According to Rob Steidlitz '79, co-chairman of the drive along with Jim McCormack '79, "a really good drive should be around 1,500 pints." The last three major drives have all surpassed that figure, but the chances this spring are slim because of the snow emergency

and the resulting large turnout of donors.

As usual, kegs of beer will be awarded to the dormitory living groups with the highest percentage turnouts, and to fraternities with the highest percentage turnouts, as well as to the most-improved living group in each category.

Last fall, when 1,689 pints were collected (the highest for an eight-day drive in four years), Russian House (92.9 percent) and Sigma Phi Epsilon (100 percent) took first-place honors.

The drive, which is sponsored by the Technology Community Association in conjunction with the American Red Cross, will run from tomorrow through Friday and from next Monday through

next Friday in the Sala de Puerto Rico on the second floor of the Student Center.

Appointments are preferred, as they speed up the donation process for everyone, but walk-ins are always welcome.

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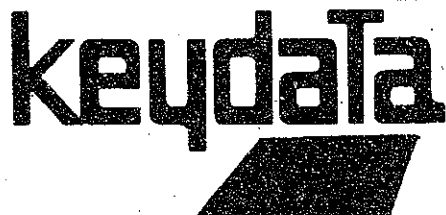
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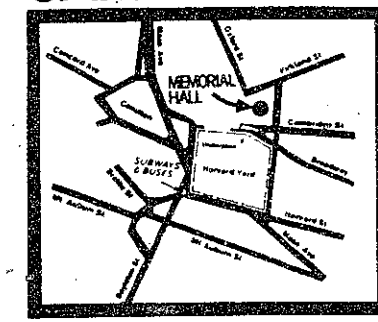


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## Carter's enegetics not Coolidge's style

By Bob Wasserman

When asked at a Washington press conference last week why the public opinion polls gave his presidency such low ratings, Jimmy Carter answered that his Administration had suffered in popularity due to its willingness to tackle tough issues.

Regarding the polls, it is hard to believe that Carter's popularity with the American public could have remained as high as it was right after his inauguration. It might be, however, that the electorate's disillusionment stems from the President's mishandling of the national issues, rather than just his procedure of taking them on.

This year seems to point to the culmination of many of Carter's programs: The energy bill and the Panama Canal treaty are being debated in Congress.

The White House's campaign for international human rights has made recent gains in several countries, but the Soviet Union's policies continue to be touchy ground for the US. President Jimmy Carter is even beginning to live up to his campaign promise to reduce the Washington bureaucracy. Carter cut many advisory panels from the government, and last Thursday he announced his incentive program and general revision of the Federal Civil Service Commission.

Carter plans a system for the Civil Service which would reward merit, changing the workings of the Civil Service Commission which makes the firing of an employee a lengthy process. "This is no way to run a farm, a factory, or a government," explained Carter.

Carter asserts that he has faced problems that "in many instances have not been adequately addressed by my predecessor." This is not totally the case, however; the Panama Canal pact had been negotiated for decades, and the Middle East peace was the main object of Henry Kissinger's shuttle diplomacy.

In any case, a series of political processes over the last fifty years have conditioned the American public to expect a great deal of government intervention in society's ills, and long and gruelling work hours for Presidents and Congressmen are taken for granted.

This amount of activity by the Chief Executive was not always the case. A good comparison of presidents and their eras can be drawn between Jimmy Carter and Calvin Coolidge, who served in the White House over fifty years apart.

Coolidge was brought up in a rural environment in Vermont, and later attended Amherst College. He began his career in politics as a noted debater and eventually became Governor of Massachusetts before ascending to the presidency.

In a booming economic period stemming from wild stock market speculations, Coolidge's economic policy was that of *laissez-faire*, or, as Coolidge himself said it, "let well enough alone." The 1920's were also a time of American isolationism from global affairs, and Coolidge did not have to worry about the pressing world-wide diplomacy that Carter loves today.

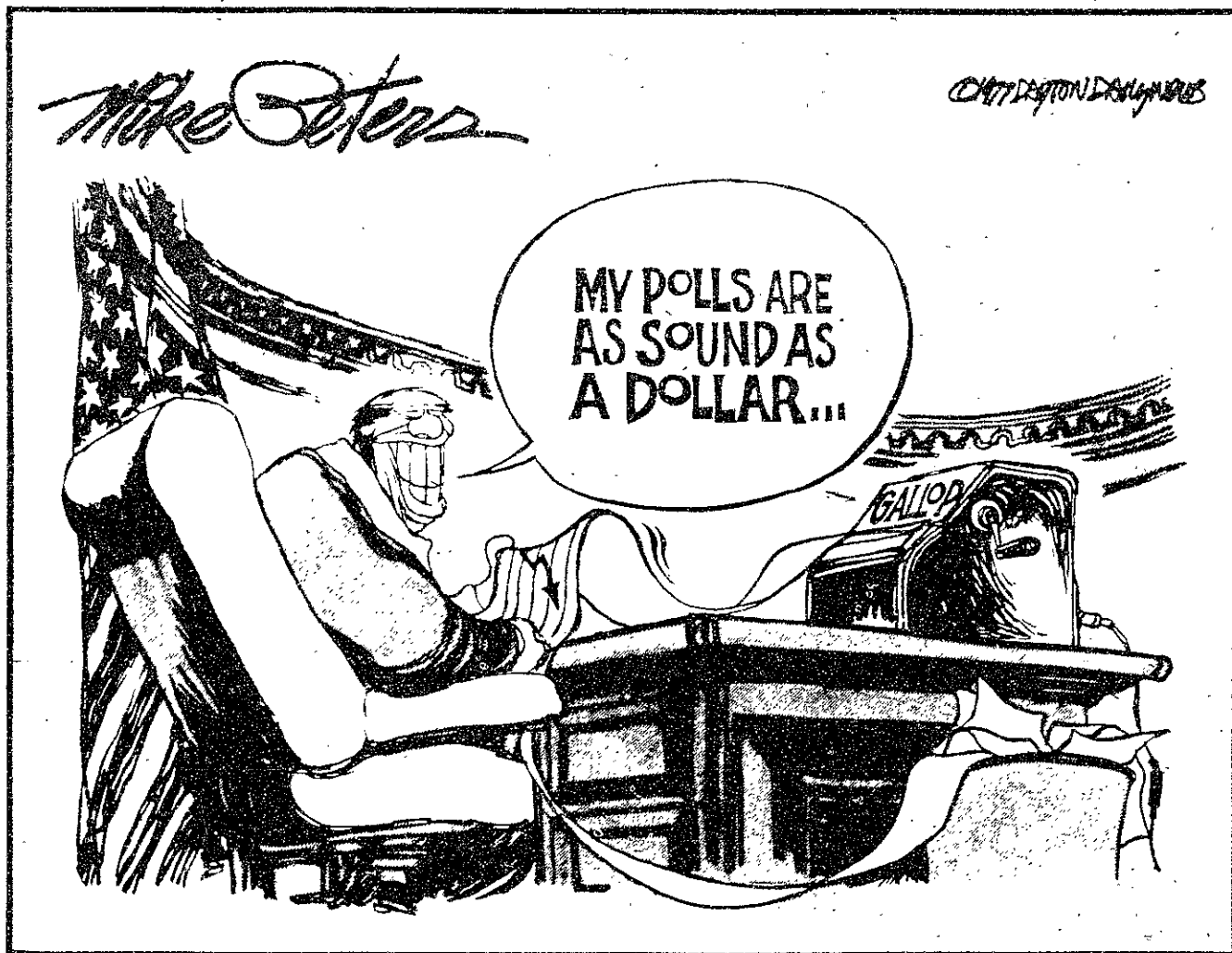
Coolidge's personal character also differed widely from Carter's. Carter made it a policy at the beginning of his term to make sure that all of his administration, including himself, take time off from work in order to be with their families and to get enough rest; Coolidge often slept eleven hours a night and still needed an afternoon nap.

President Coolidge was a shy and reserved man, rarely smiling, while a smile is Jimmy Carter's trademark. Carter is also quite outgoing, as witnessed by his affectionate greetings with Anwar Sadat of Egypt, a country which employed Russian military advisors until a few years ago.

There were some similarities, however both men used the media effectively. Coolidge was photographed in several exotic outfits, including a full Indian costume, and also held more press conferences than Franklin Roosevelt.

The most striking characteristic of Coolidge's presidential style was his reticence in answering questions and his sermonizing in speeches. Coolidge admitted: "They can't hang you for what you don't say." Jimmy Carter, on the other hand, has never been afraid to say anything to anyone, as long as it would please his audience.

Summing his entire stay in the White House, Coolidge replied that he kept fit by "avoiding the big problems." The great depression of the 1930's showed the danger of this passive attitude towards government. Many of President Carter's initiatives can not be evaluated until later, but whether or not the public approves of his Administration, he must act decisively on the pressing problems of today.



something  
else

feedback

## The Tech reviewers unfair

To the Editor:

I wish that when your "arts reviewer" went to see some event, concert or play, that you, the editor, would insure that the aforementioned reviewer watched the show from some location other than from underneath her seat! Even out in the lobby would be an improvement.

I recently went to see two shows that were subsequently reviewed in *The Tech*, the new play "Dancin'" and the PDQ Bach Concert. I found them both quite enjoyable, and of the finest quality.

The play "Dancin'" was a refreshing new type of entertainment, it was simply dancing, however, there was some rather poignant ideas that came across very clearly in the show. *The Tech* reviewer complained about the over done sex in the show. I felt that the "sex" in the show was very well danced. The whole point

of the show was to parody American life! Anyone would have to admit that sex plays an important part of our lives, and it is overcommercialized because of it. What the reviewer called a "mass orgy" was tastefully done, and it produced that aspect of our lives. Other good things about the play which the reviewer missed include the dance to Benning Goodman's "Sing, Sing, Sing", which was the most exciting dance I've seen outside of ballet; and Ed Love's performance of "I Got Them Feelin' Too Good Today -Blues" which was nothing less than brilliant. The parody of dance classes, "The Dream Barre", was humorous, and it really hits home if one has ever done any dancing.

I agree that the show had some weak points. The song "Here you come again" was less than brilliant, but who can blame 4 very tired dancers (This was after

"Sing, Sing, Sing") from doing a poor job at singing. All in all, the show was very enjoyable and both my date and myself left the theatre dancing.

About PDQ Bach, it is clear that the "reviewer" has little time for a little poke at the musical snobs of the world. So what if Prof. Schickele went flat! He is a pianist, not a singer, and he admits it! Prof. Schickele has a great deal of musical talent, or he wouldn't be able to do so well at this parody. Let's not be so serious about his show. No one ever claimed, or ever will claim that PDQ is terrific music, it is not meant to be. The audience did not fall asleep during the Goldbrick Variations, and if the reviewer did, it was because she has no taste, nor understanding of classical music. Only then, could the reviewer not get the musical jokes which are PDQ Bach. In short, I see no reason to take that performance so seriously! I don't care if in terms of "operatic criteria, it stank". I enjoyed it.

If I were to do a serious review of PDQ Bach, it would emphasize the obvious musical dexterity of all the performers, and especially, Prof. Schickele, and his and [word deleted]. The point is that all this doesn't matter, it was funny. It was a humorous parody of classical music. I left that show laughing.

It is clear that the reviewer can recognize a parody when she sees one, so I must assume that she watched both of these shows from under her seat, obviously. Please try and prevent this kind of poor conduct at a concert in the future, it is most unbecoming of an MIT student-to be in that position.

John A. Hengeveld '80

*Editor's note:* The PDQ Bach review was meant to be a humorous parody of classical music reviews; it was written in the same non-serious spirit as the concert. The *Dancin'* review did include praise of Benny Goodman's "Sing, Sing, Sing."

*The Tech* welcomes Letters to the Editor, which should be typed, triple-spaced, and as brief as possible. Unsigned letters will not be published. An author's name will be withheld on request.

## Dancin' agreeably poor

To the Editor:

I must congratulate Kathy Hardis on what I consider to an extremely perceptive and well written review of *Dancin'* in the Feb. 24 issue of *The Tech*.

After the predominately favorable comments of Elliot Norton, Mr. Taylor and I got tickets for the next performance. Afterwards we would have been moli-

fied with the refund of \$27 because of the largely lost evening.

We were present at Benny Goodman's Carnegie Hall Concert, and were enthusiastic as you were about "Sing, Sing, Sing" as it was danced.

Keep up the good work.

(Mrs.) Alice H. Taylor  
Feb. 24, 1978

## Are MIT grades inflated?

To the Editor:

Consideration by the Committee on Educational Policy to remedy the problem of "grade inflation" by rationing grades according to a pre-defined distribution curve, would be too absurd to illicit [sic] comment, except that this committee apparently has the power to implement such action. Therefore, I feel a strong reaction of anger.

Yes, grades should reflect a student's mastery of a subject, but it is inappropriate for grades to simultaneously measure the student's competitive status relative to his fellows. Certainly, MIT prides itself upon admitting only the intellectual "cream" into its

student body. Consequently, one would only be given cause to wonder if the majority of this student body did not receive A's and B's.

To limit the number of well-earned good-grades by some artificial distribution curve will penalize those students who desired to stretch their ability at MIT rather than glide easily to the top of their class at some inferior university.

The only inflation apparent to me is in the credentials of those who are seriously advocating "grade deflation."

Bruce Joffe  
February 26, 1978

The  
Tech

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Leroy A. Lindquist '79 — Business Manager

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Tuesday, March 7, 1978

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# happenings

## AROUND MIT

**Strat's Rat**, Fri., March 10, 8:30pm in the Sala. The last Strat's Rat drew 400; it's back with usual cheap beer, wine, good music, etc.; free with college ID.

**MIT Symphony Orchestra**, Sat., March 11, 8:30pm in Kresge Auditorium. Gary Steiger, soloist, David Epstein conductor for Schumann's *Piano Concerto*, Prelude and Love Death for Wagner's *Tristan*, and *Isolde* and Hindemith's *Symphonic Dances*. Tickets free in Lobby 10, \$1 at the door.

**MIT Concert Band and RPI Symphonic Band**, Sun., March 12, 2:30pm, in Kresge Auditorium. Program includes: *Variation on a Korean Folk Song* by John Chance and *Music for a Festival* by Gordon Jacob. Admission free.

**Music Lecture**, by Prof. Klaus Liepmann, second of two on Mozart Opera, today, Tues., March 7, 4pm in 10-250, free.

## AT THE MOVIES

*The LSC lineup this weekend:*  
**Three Musketeers** (Fri.) 7 & 9:30pm in 26-100.  
**Fun With Dick and Jane** (Sat.) 7 & 10pm in 26-100.  
**Summer of '42** (Sun.) 6:30 & 9pm in 26-100.

**The Fourth Annual Animation Series** continues the fifth of eight consecutive weekends with *Pioneers of Animation*, Fri.-Sat., March 10-12, at 7:30 & 9:30pm at the Carpenter Center for Visual Arts on Quincy St., outside Harvard Yard. Tickets: \$2; call Center Screen, 253-7620.

**Casino Royale**, the MidNite Movie, Sat., March 11, in the Sala de Puerto Rico; free with MIT/Wellesley ID.

## IN TOWN

**Stephane Grappelli**, legendary jazz violinist, with the *Diz Disley Trio*, Fri., March 10, 7:30 at Berklee Performance Center; tickets, \$6.50 & 7.50 at the box office & Strawberries.

**Two Hundred Finger Orchestra**, at the Berklee Performance Center, Thur., March 9, at 8:15pm. For info., call 266-1400.

## THEATRE

**Worksong**, a new collaboration piece by the *Talking Band* theatre troupe (from N.Y.) in association with poet Marc Kaminsky, Thur-Sat, 8pm, through March 18 at the Cambridge Ensemble, 1151 Mass. Ave. (876-2544).

**Boston Shakespeare Company**, is presenting on alternate days Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* (Thurs. & Sat.) and Anouilh's *Antigone* (Fri. & specific Weds.) at the BSC Theatre, Berkeley & Marlborough Sts., Boston, 267-5600.

## ANNOUNCEMENT

**Multiple Sclerosis Dance Marathon**, 28-hour marathon beginning Fri., March 10, at 8pm, at Boston College's Roberts Center. Live music by the Simms Brothers Band, Image, Oak, and the Ellis Hall Band. Spectator admission \$2.50. If you wish to dance call (969-0100 x 3497) for info.

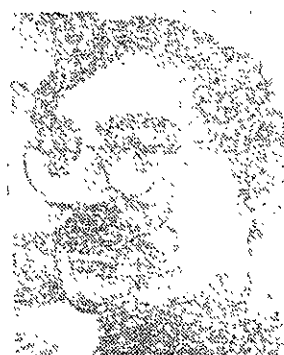
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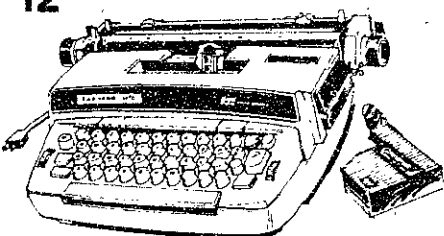


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Chuck Kleekamp will tell you how he and another technical staff member solved some tactical communications problems with fiber optics. (And how they solved a tough connector problem — they designed a new one!)

### JTIDS DISPLAY

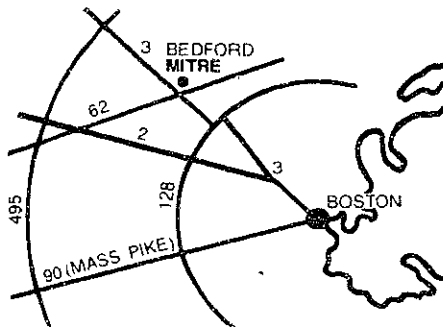
Eric Ellingson will discuss the new Joint Tactical Information Distribution System (JTIDS) that facilitates communications through a jam-free information pool. See how MITRE is applying the latest microprocessor technology to such large scale real communications systems.

### RADAR SIMULATOR

Ivan La-Garde will demonstrate an equipment which simulates an air-surveillance radar with its display which shows the position of all the aircraft being observed. This system utilizes a series of microprocessors to synthesize radar responses to as many as 200 aircraft within the surveillance area.

Openings exist for both Technical Staff Members and Associate Technical Staff Members, including some opportunities for persons with Associate's Degrees or the equivalent direct experience in electronic systems engineering or computers.

If you cannot be with us either evening, call Dave Finnegan collect at (617) 271-2000 to discuss an alternate interview appointment, or mail your resume to him at The MITRE Corporation, 2403 Middlesex Turnpike, Bedford, Massachusetts 01730.



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  - Communications Processors (Hardware & Software)
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  - Secure A&D Communications
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  - Radar Systems Surveillance Techniques
  - Radar Systems Analyses
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  - Advanced Planning
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5. All airplanes will be launched by hand only. If there are any special instructions regarding launching such as the angle of attack and force (hard, medium or soft) of launch, please print them clearly on a visible portion of your paper airplane, and the judges will attempt to follow them.
6. Preliminary judging to select the farthest flying 100 paper airplanes will be conducted in an indoor location by the D.L. BLAIR CORPORATION, an independent judging organization.
7. The top 100 farthest flying airplanes (the Finalists) will be flown again indoors to select the farthest flying paper airplane using the same criteria as stated above. Selection of a winner will be made by a distinguished panel of judges who will be named later, under the direction of the D.L. BLAIR CORPORATION.
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Robert's married friends sing him "Happy Birthday" in the production of *Company* at the Loeb Drama Center (Photo courtesy of the Loeb)

**Sondheim's *Company***

**Still a pacesetting musical**

*Company*, at the Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle Street, Cambridge, March 8-11, tickets \$3.50 and \$4.50, call 864-2630 for information.

By Kathy Hardis

Stephan Sondheim's *Company* was an award-winning musical on Broadway, and rightly so. It has been described as a "landmark musical," one of the few shows that enter the permanent lore of the theatre by "altering the scope of conventional dramatic possibilities."

Harvard College, at the Loeb Drama Center, is now presenting a rare Boston-area production of *Company* which is quite good. Sondheim aficionados should make a point of seeing this much praised musical, and everyone else should try to see it simply because it is a well-performed, funny show.

*Company's* plot concerns Robert, a 35-year old bachelor living in Manhattan who is continually evaluating the risks of loving and commitment. Five married couples and three single girls provide him with a means by which to assess these risks.

All the married couples play a sort of show-and-tell in front of their favorite bachelor friend. Several of their problems are common, exposing the trivialities and boredom associated with marriage. Other problems are unusual and perhaps even symbolic; one wife wants to karate-chop the hell out of her husband while a Catholic girl (in a wedding dress with guests already at church) nervously chickens out about marrying the "handsome Jew" with whom she's been living for four years.

The husbands half envy Robert and his freedom. Their wives picture him pining away in unrequited loneliness, but Robert does manage to seduce a beautiful, loquacious airline stewardess of vacant mind and easy virtue.

The show's ending is not a cop-out, but rather an often-overlooked truism; Robert discovers that these footloose and

fancy-free, casual liasons are empty, leaving him feeling "less than alive." He will abandon the company of friends to find a more fulfilling relationship with commitment. Attention is also paid to the plight of the young single girls who are also unable to be truly happy with a man who wants only freedom.

*Company* tells all of this with undeviating honesty and dozens of one-word and one-line laughs. When the stewardess stirs to leave the bed after a discreet blackout, Robert asks her where she's going. "Barcelona," she replies.

The structure of *Company* is not that of a conventional musical. It contains no chorus, and all roles — with the possible exception of Robert — carry equal weight; the singing and dancing melt into one integrated continuity of action.

Singling out one member of the cast would risk slighting the others who were all very good and highly stylized in their individual roles. However, Jean Budney nearly brought the house down with her solo, the neurotic patter song, "I'm Not Getting Married Today!"

The choreography was appropriate and original; the group number "Side by Side by Side," besides being well-executed, really showed Robert to be the only guy without a partner.

The only criticism concerning the show was that it was hard to hear the words in some of the songs, most notably "Another Hundred People," which contains lyrics as poignant and sensitive as some Paul Simon works. It describes New York as a "city of

strangers," a lonely place for a single person.

All things considered, however, *Company* is definitely worth seeing; it's a great show punctuated with wit and wisdom, and the Loeb production certainly does justice to this musical which should play in Boston more often.

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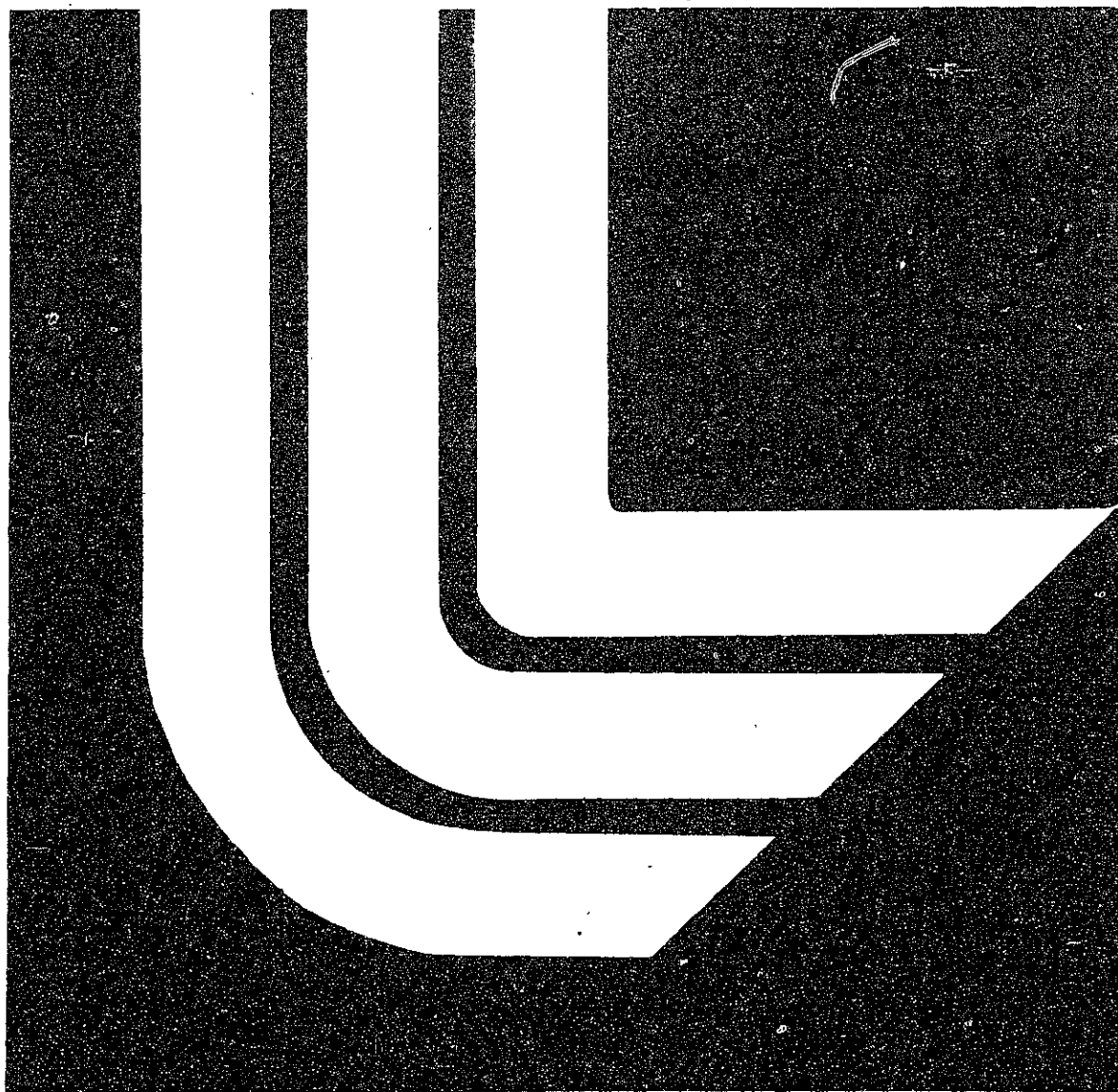
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—Susan Lynn Hansen



Coach John Benedick instructs swimmer Ken Calvert '79. A season of hard work paid off for the varsity swimmers as they set four MIT records and placed 11th in the New England Championships last weekend. (Photo by Gordon Haff)

## Vorlicek to swim in Nationals as team breaks five records

By Gregg Stave

The MIT swim team equalled the eleventh place finish they attained last year at the New England Championships held at Springfield College on March 2-4. Captain Preston Vorlicek '79 again qualified for the Nationals. Four MIT varsity records and one freshman record fell during the three day competition won by the University of Maine.

All-American Preston Vorlicek earned the right to return to the NCAA Division III National Championships as a result of his performance at Springfield. Vorlicek placed fourth in the 200 yard backstroke with a 2:15.8 clocking. He will also swim in the 400 yard individual medley. By a margin of seven one-thousandths of a second Vorlicek broke his own school record in that event Thursday night, recording a 4:28.56. For the 100 yard breaststroke he was awarded seventh place when he completed the four laps in 1:02. This will be Vorlicek's third event when he travels to Grinnell, Iowa on March 16th at MIT's only representative at the Nationals.

MIT's 400 yard medley relay failed to qualify by less than one second. The team of John Dieken '80 (backstroke — :57.5), Chris Moss '80 (breaststroke — 1:02.7), Greg Floro '79 (butterfly — :56.0) and Mark Huntszinger (freestyle — :49.5) finished in a time of 3:45.

Dieken broke his own school record in the 500 yard freestyle by over four seconds. After swimming a disappointing 5:00.4 in the trials, he advanced to tenth place

with a remarkable clocking of 4:55.6 in the consolation finals. Although he holds four other school records, this was the best, and most intelligent, swim of his MIT career.

Moss picked up important team points in the 100 yard and 200 yard breaststroke races with tenth and eleventh place finishes. His 2:18 in the 200 yard breaststroke preliminary trials was only a few tenths of a second slower than the time required to qualify for the Nationals.

Huntszinger set a varsity and freshman record in the 200 yard backstroke event. He completed the eight laps in 2:06.1, and shattered the old mark by one and one-half seconds. Huntszinger also led off the record-setting 800 yard freestyle relay team. The relay team consisted of Huntszinger (1:52), Dieken (1:48.9), Floro (1:56), and Tim Ramsey '79 (1:51). Ramsey was primarily a breastroker last season. Like Greg Floro, who was a free-styler until he swam butterfly in last year's Greater Boston, Ramsey shocked everyone when he swam a 1:54 for the 200 yard freestyle in this year's GBCAA Championships.

On the diving board, Ken Brady '79 finished in sixth place overall from the three-meter height carrying on MIT's tradition of excellent divers. Last year, Brady finished in twentieth place, making his feat more remarkable. He finished sixteenth on the one meter board.

A freshman record was set by

George Dowd '81 in the 200 yard butterfly. Dowd's 2:07.1 performance missed the varsity record by one tenth of a second. Ken Lilar '81 recorded a remarkable :56.5 in the 100 yard butterfly race ensuring that MIT will have a strong butterfly contingent for several years to come.

In the freestyle sprints Ken Calvert '90 just missed picking up points. For the 100 yard freestyle Calvert even amazed himself when he clocked in with a spectacular :49.8 from a flat start. In the 50 yard freestyle he completed the two laps in :22.8. Later in the meet he swam the second leg of the 400 yard freestyle relay.

The 400 yard freestyle relay team of Ramsey (:51.0), Calvert (:49.7), Matt Alves '80 (:51.3) and Al Morris '80 (:51.7) swam the fastest relay of any MIT team in the past several seasons. Alves has shown continuing improvement this season. Morris, who anchored the relay, swam a personal best time by several seconds.

MIT avenged a 56-57 loss earlier this season to Amherst College. In that meet, the Amherst Lord Jeffs won the final event, the 400 yard freestyle relay to pick up the deciding points. The Lord Jeffs finished fifth in the consolation finals of that relay. Fourth place would have put them ahead of MIT in the overall standings.

Dedication and effort have resulted in these excellent performances. Each team member has logged hundreds of thousands of yards this season. The team's performance at this year's New England Championships proved that the sacrifices required are necessary for improvement in swimming.

## Baker, PDT tie for first in IM swimming meet

By Tom Curtis

Baker House came from behind to tie PDT for overall first place in the intramural swimming meet held Thursday, Friday, and Saturday in Alumni Pool. This is the third year in a row that Baker House has finished first.

PDT had been alone in first place until the final race, the 200 yard freestyle relay. Both PDT and Baker had teams entered in that race. Baker finished second in the race while PDT came in last. This gave both teams a final total of 48 points.

Senior House won that relay and thereby tied the Burton Third Bombers, who did not have a relay team entered, for third place overall.

PDT won more events than any other team at the meet. PDT's Gary Simpson '78 won both the

100 yard individual medley and 100 yard breaststroke. PDT also won the first event of the meet, the 200 yard medley relay.

MacGregor H-Turkeys' Scott Kubowicz '80 was the only other double winner besides Simpson. Kubowicz took both the 50 yard and 100 yard freestyle races.

Baker swimmers won two of the 13 events. Mark Svetlitz '80 of Baker finished just ahead of PDT's Hasse in the 50 yard backstroke. Rasteiter was the other winner for Baker as he placed first in the 500 yard freestyle, the longest race of the day.

The meet was held over three days. Preliminary races were held Thursday and Friday. Finals were held Saturday afternoon. The well-attended finals had a turnout larger than most varsity swimming meets.

### Team Standings

1 Baker	48
1 PDT	48
3 Senior House	27
3 Burton 3rd Bombers	27
5 DTD	24
6 H-Turkeys	22
7 DU	21
8 I.C.A.-PBE	17
8 ZBT	17
10 Conner 3rd	13
11 SPF	10
12 PKA	9
12 Bexley	9
14 PKS	8
15 PLP	7
16 ATO	4
17 Meteorology	2
17 TC	2

### Men's Events

200 yard medley relay — PDT, 1:53.891
200 yard freestyle — Griffity, DTD, 2:05.141
50 yard backstroke — Sietlitz, Baker, 29.676
50 yard breaststroke — Gerst, ZBT, 32.434

50 yard freestyle — Kubowicz, H-Turkeys, 24.503
50 yard butterfly — Cochrane, Bombers, 26.422
1 meter diving — Plummer, independent
100 yard individual medley — Simpson, PDT, 1:00.046
100 yard freestyle — Kubowicz, H-Turkeys, 55.213
100 yard backstroke — Hasse, PDT, 1:05.722
500 yard freestyle — Rasteiter, Baker, 5:59.130
100 yard breaststroke — Simpson, PDT, 1:07.921
200 yard freestyle relay — Senior House, 1:43.751

### Women's Events

200 yard medley relay — Baker
200 yard freestyle — Griffin, Baker, 2:38.425
50 yard breaststroke — Ferguson, Senior House, 37.132
50 yard freestyle — Powell, Meteorology, 33.607
100 yard freestyle — Powell, Meteorology, 1:20



Mark Brent '78 swims to fourth place in the 100 yard freestyle race in Saturday's IM swimming meet finals. (Photo by Gordon Haff)

## Rifle team places second in New England finals

By Bob Host

In the New England Collegiate Rifle League finals held last Saturday in duPont Rifle Range, the MIT rifle team finished second in a seven-team field with a total of 2,187 points, behind the University of Maine, which set an MIT range record with 2,238 points.

Maine also finished first in the overall league standings, with MIT third overall. Second in the league was Norwich, which took third place in Saturday's competition. Rounding out the field were the United States Coast Guard Academy, Dartmouth, the University of Rhode Island, and Providence.

The event was on a "half course," consisting of two targets in each of three positions: prone, standing, and kneeling. Each target consists of ten shots, worth

a total of one hundred points. Thus, the maximum individual total was 600, and team scores consist of the top four individual scores.

Maine was bolstered by All-American Candidate Tim Tobin, who finished the season with an average of 575.8, the highest in the league. His 571 on Saturday was the high score for the match. MIT's top scorer was Fred Zelt '81, who shot a 560 to place fourth in the finals, and who is described by his teammates as having "good promise." Zelt was the highest-scoring freshman on Saturday. Co-captain Alan Marcum, '78, turned in a good performance to end up fourth overall in the league with an average of 551.5. The team completed its season Sunday in the New England sectionals.

### Foul Shots

## New facilities: maybe yes, maybe no

By Tom Curtis

Recently, many rumors about plans to begin construction of the proposed athletic complex have been spreading across the campus. According to Director of Athletics Ross Smith, the facts of the matter are:

1. Campus architect Howard Portnoy has been given the green light to work on the final drawings for the complex.

2. There are no definite plans to begin construction of the indoor ice rink/indoor track complex in the near future.

Portnoy's work on the drawings indicates that construction may start soon, nevertheless. If adequate funds are found, work could begin when the drawings are finished, perhaps this summer.

The question of funding has been stalling construction of the facility since plans were announced in 1973. Funds have been coming in at a trickle since then.

In the meantime, the projected cost of the building

has steadily climbed. The recent estimate lists the cost as \$7.8 million, one million dollars above the previous estimate.

Money for the athletic center is to come from alumni contributions through the Leadership Campaign. So far, less than three million dollars in contributions has been earmarked for the center. However, a portion of the Leadership Campaign undesignated contributions might be used to initiate construction.

All this means Briggs Arena (ice rink), scheduled to close this week, may be in its final days. The Arena must be removed before work can begin on the new facility.

After a decade of planning for the facility, any sign such as the final architectural drawing is encouraging. By giving Portnoy the go-ahead, the administration has implied construction may start in the near future. Still, no definite plans have been made. Let's keep our fingers crossed.