Eisenberg opposed drop date plan

By Laurence Duffy

Recent rumors claimed that the Committee on Academic Performance (CAP) has been asking markedly increased numbers of students to leave the Institute. According to Professor Thomas Greytak, chairman of the CAP.

All Geller, a writer for Thursday's special issue of The Tech, has been asking three times more students to withdraw from the Institute per term over the past year than in previous years. According to Greytak, this increased number of students has resulted in increased numbers of student drop dates, which he attributes to changes in the cap's policies.

Greytak's opinion. He mentioned that the committee now deals somewhat more strictly with students who accumulate a "string of warnings" without making an effort to deal with their situations. Due to the large degree of uncertainty concerning the real reasons for the increased number of students asked to leave, several student voting members of the CAP have decided to undertake a detailed study of the possible factors which could explain the increase, according to Greytak.

He said that results of such a study will probably not be available until the end of this term. Several things must happen before the CAP can formally recommend that a student withdraws from the Institute. At the end of each term, the committee looks into students whose "term rating" is 3.0 or less and/or courses that total more than 35 units. These students whose situations are deemed serious are given "Deferred Decision Status".

At a Deferred Decision Status meeting, the committee considers the opinions of faculty in the student's department, as well as those of the medical department, Dean's Office, and Financial Aid Office. This is because a student on Deferred Decision Status may have other members of this committee.

Thoughtful people disagree; there are virtues in the current arrangement as well as to the proposed changes. What I am about to state represents my view, rather than that of the office as a whole. But, I would be remiss in not expressing my opinion on the likely effect of the proposed changes on the students' experience.

First, the existence of an option, even one that is not often used, provides students with a potential route out of a work overload that is in keeping with MIT's tradition of flexibility and self-determination. Knowing that you have a choice provides a safety valve. Its absence would be felt as punitive, though that is clearly not the intent of the faculty sponsors of the change.

Second, the proposal occurs at a time when other academic changes — those in the grading system — are under discussion. The inclusion of these issues, though they may be independent, (Please turn to page 3)

News Analysis

Drop date defeated

By Mark James

The defeat of the early drop date proposal demonstrates that, at least once in a while, student voices are not lost to the wind.

Prediction is always a dangerous game, even in hindsight, but it seems very unlikely that the drop date plan would have been defeated if it had come to a vote in December. The plan carried the endorsement of two important faculty committees, those on Academic Performance and Educational Policy, but more important, it was a popular plan with faculty members in general.

Student action on the issue may have started slowly, but by the time of the meeting a surprisingly large number of faculty appear to have been reached by its student spokesmen. It is impossible to guess how much difference student opinion made to individual faculty members, but there is little doubt that at least some professors were swayed by the strength of the student sentiment.

More persuasive was Carol Eisenberg's strong statement against the plan. Such a clear statement from someone who has been having medical, family, personal, or financial problems which resulted directly in academic difficulties.

In many instances when the committee approves "negotiated withdrawals," for students, the intent is to give him a choice to resolve such external problems so that he might return to the Institute one, or more times later. On the average, according to Greytak, from 30 to 60 percent of students who are asked to leave are later readmitted, but only a third to a half of the drop dates on successful to receive an undergraduate degree.

As we have heard, not more than 6 percent of the students actually use the current rules in order to drop more than one course. If only a minority will be affected by the changes, why are so many students so adamant in their opposition?

The reasons are several. First, the existence of an option, even one that is not often used, provides students with a potential route out of a work overload that is in keeping with MIT's tradition of flexibility and self-determination. Knowing that you have a choice provides a safety valve. Its absence would be felt as punitive, though that is clearly not the intent of the faculty sponsors of the change.

Second, the proposal occurs at a time when other academic changes — those in the grading system — are under discussion. The conjunction of these issues, though they may be independent.
The meeting then proceeded-
World
Rhodesian leaders, both black and white, have declared that the major aspects of the transformation to black majority rule have been agreed upon. They say that in a few days a transitional government will be established.

Mideast
Begin concerned with US arms sales to Egypt — Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin announced that he would visit the United States next month for a three day talk at the White House in response to what many Israelis feel is a "shift in US Middle East policy." This feeling was sharpened by the US decision to supply Egypt and Saudi Arabia with military planes.

National
Coal owners resume talks with miners — Under the threat of public disapproval by President Carter, the coal operators agreed to resume the talks with striking mine workers. Earlier, the coal operators had refused to return to the talks because they believed "the country should not be held hostage of any group which seizes the energy jugular."

Sports
Spinks defeats "the Greatest" — Former World Heavyweight Boxing Champion Mohammed Ali lost his title to young Leon Spinks in a decision in a 15-round bout. Spinks has already approved of a rematch with Ali and expects to be challenged by Ken Norton and Jimmy Young in the near future.

OXFORD, ENGLAND — US Physicist William Slate, who this past August won the Nobel prize in physics, is using a variety of new techniques to "demystify" quantum theory. The work, which he has been doing for the past five years, has led to new insights into the nature of the atom and the behavior of subatomic particles.

(Continued from page 1)

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Woe be those who sign with someone else before talking to Data General. Because Data General is the third largest computer company in the world in computer shipments.

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By Bob Wasserman

Now that school has been re-scheduled to meet on Washington's Birthday next Monday, it seems appropriate to remember our country's first President with a story. The same holds for Abe Lincoln, whose birthday last week was forgotten by MIT as well as by everyone else.

Little George Washington was an unusual child. While normal children lived regular birthdays each year, Poor George had his on the fourth Monday of February. While other colonial youngsters were quite adept at fibbing to their parents to insure their innocence, Little George had to admit to his impeccable parents: "I cannot tell a lie."

After getting tired of trying to persuade young George to celebrate a military career, Mr. Washington, as a colonel in a Virginia regiment, proceeded to get his charges and himself nearly scalped by Indians in the French and Indian War. Deciding he'd rather fight the British, he agreed to command the Revolutionary Army.

Despite the grim war happening all over the country, Abe still found time to joke. One of his favorites was about the Union sailor aboard a ship which sank in a fierce storm. After several trying days the sailor finally washed up on shore clinging to a log and his life. "Where am I?" asks the sailor. His rescuers reply: "You've just landed in New Jersey".

Honest Abe Lincoln was a born President. He even succeeded in living up to his nickname of "Honest Abe". In the beginning of his term he was so busy that each of these three could claim some historical showplace. Some of young Abe's actions have made it pretty difficult on our generation. Abe had to walk ten miles to school each day in the driving snow, even in summer. Just so our parents could say: "When I was your age, I had to walk ten miles to school in the driving snow!"

Even after an undistinguished battle in Illinois politics, Abe ran for President, but much to his surprise, on winning he found that he only presided over half the states he planned on. He then waited for his foot to grow in size and took over the White House.

All of a sudden the Rebels down in South Carolina started firing on Fort Sumter, just because some Southern stations wanted their pic- tures on dollar bills. It was a pretty dull war they even had to use one battlefield, Bull Run, twice, because there were not enough- good ones to go around. It was a war with no sense to it, as both capitals, Richmond of the Confederacy, and Washington of the Union, were only one hundred miles apart. Nevertheless, both armies were convinced that they had to run around and destroy half the U.S. in order to win the war.

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realistic depiction of homo sapiens after another ten thousand years or so of evolution.

The acting of all concerned was excellent, especially the precious childlike innocence of pure curiosity and fun invoked by all the youngsters like when Dreyfuss is initated by his children when playing with his mashed potatoes or throwing dirt into his kitchen window. The exact method of kidnapping (or whatever sequence one chooses) is indeed trivial concerning whether or not extra-terrestrial life would proceed to do precisely so. The mere fact of these incidents estabishes the non-Terran presence. It is the reactions to them that matters, such as the child who is unhappy to interject:

Scupltors disgruntled

To the Editor:

Last Saturday a group of MIT students got together to make a snow sculpture. It ended up being a six-foot-tall beaver, standing on the Kresge Lawn facing McC- mick. During the day it took to build him, passersby were showing interest, and once he became recognizable most people seemed to act him. It's nice when people smile at your work, and laugh because they see the humor that was intended.

The sculpture had not been standing twenty-four hours before someone knocked his head off.

We hope whoever felt they had to do it got enough satisfaction to justify depressing the seven people who worked at creating the beaver. It really hurts.

Janet Freeman '78
Peter Cunningham G
Kari Perlstein '74
Leigh Slaughter '77
Karyn Allman '81
Lois Ullman '81

(Continued from page 4)

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By Leigh J. Passman

Volpone: Or, the Fox, which will be presented by the MIT Dramashop this Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, February 17, 18, and 19, opened this past Wednesday with a lucid and enjoyable production of Ben Jonson's Elizabethan comedy.

Jonson's play, a forerunner of Elizabethan realistic satire, centers around Volpone (Andrew Piecka '72), a rich Venetian, and his knavish cohort Mosca (Albert Ruesga '80), who greedily extract lavish gifts from townspeople who shower him with them in hope of being named Volpone's heir. The three main suitors of his wealth are Voltare, a lawyer (Mark de Lemos '78), Corbaccio, an old gentleman (Emil Millet '73), and Corvirio, a merchant (Curtis Fennell '78).

The acting by these five principal characters is excellent, with Mosca's ability to con the three "heirs" skillful and most entertaining. At one point when each of the three "heirs" suspect that they have been deceived, Mosca quickly concocts an explanation and convinces them each that the actions he has taken, which seemingly throw the wealth to one of the other "heirs," will actually benefit them in the end. Volpone's greed for wealth and for the power over people that it commands, are well demonstrated by Andrew Piecka.

A fourth "heir" (who appears later in the play) is Lady Politic Wouldbe, Joan Toltino, who played this role, stole the show with her hilarious and perfect portrayal of the vociferous and excitable Lady. Jonson's play, while a comedy, has a strong moral tone, and in fact it is Jonson's use of satire that drives his negative examples. The aversion of the principle characters is so great that they are willing to sacrifice their families for a wealth they only think they will realize. The Dramashop's production follows Jonson's script quite closely and his realistic and potent moral tone is preserved.

The production, which lasted slightly over three hours, including two intermissions, experienced several minor technical problems, but these should be worked out. The sets, designed by William Fregosi, were attractive, effective, and functional. However, the design, which yielded these results and the good humor with morals that the Dramashop's production of Volpone offered, was also responsible for the cumbersome and mostly distracting set changes that went on behind curtains as the actors continued in front. Lighting in Kresge's Little Theatre was adequate but undistinguished.

The costumes, designed by Cecilia Eller (whose cute daughter played Nano, the dwarf) and Peggy King, were good. The wide variety of costumes was interesting, colorful and appropriate. Several players who had more than one role had to make quick costume changes.

The production of Volpone was offered by the MIT Dramashop at an Independent Activities Period project by Prof. Everingham and Prof. Scanlan. Students who participated in any aspect of the production received academic credit.

Volpone: Or, the Fox, will have its last three shows this weekend. Tickets are $2.50 and can be purchased in Lobby 10 or at the door for more information call x3-4720.

The Dramashop's production was an entertaining and enjoyable evening and should not be missed.
**AROUND MIT**

Valpone: Or, the Fox; Ben Jonson's comedy, which is being produced by the MIT Dramashop, has been rescheduled to Fri.-Sun., Feb. 17-19, at 8pm in Kresge Little Theatre. Tickets are $2.50. For reservations or to exchange tickets for cancelled performances, call x3-4720. Tickets also available at the door and in Lobby 10.

Pre-Spring Fling, billed as the first all campus semi-formal in years, Sat., Feb. 18, at 7pm in Kresge Auditorium. The premiere of Morton Brown's Concerto grosso for Concert Band and works by Tull, Gould, Gianinni, Chance, Tucker, and Malofee are included in the program. Admission is free. 

Stray's Rat, in Lobdell Friday 8:30pm-lam. Cheap beer, fine music. Free with MIT/Wellesley I.D.

**American Ballroom Dance, informal dance with Swing & Jitterbug, Sat., Feb. 11 in the Boston Dining Hall. Sponsored by the Ballroom Dance Club, there will be free refreshments and a nominal admission fee for non-members.**

The Meza a relaxed setting, a talented performer or two, free coffee and donuts Fri., Feb. 17 at 9pm in the Student Center Mezza. 

Vincent Price will speak on the topic "Williams still Pursues Me," Mon., March 6, at 8pm in Kresge. LSC ticket sales will begin this Fri., Feb. 17 in Lobby 10 at all LSC offices, and at the LSC Box Office, W20-437. Tickets are $2, or $1 with MIT/Wellesley I.D.

**AT THE MOVIES**

LSC has a mixed lineup of movies this weekend. 

The Onion (Fri) 7 & 10pm in 26-100. Hitchcock Double Feature (Sat): The Thirty-Nine Steps at 6 & 10pm and Spellbound at 7:45 & 11:45, both in 26-100.

The Great Escape (Sun) 6:30 & 10pm in 26-100. 

The Russians Are Coming, The Russians Are Coming, the McPhee Movie Sat., Feb. 18 in Lobdell, free with MIT/Wellesley I.D.

The Thief of Bagdad, the LSC's 3rd Annual Silent Movie, with John Kiley at the organ, will be held Mon., Feb. 20, at 8pm in Kresge. Tickets are on sale now for $1.50.

The Fourth Annual Winter Animation Series continues the sound of eight consecutive weekends, with a Norman McLaren Retrospective, parts I, II, and III to be shown Fri., Sat., & Sun., Feb. 17, 18, & 19 respectively at 7:30 & 9:30pm at the Carpenter Center for Visual Arts, on Quincy St. outside Harvard Yard. Single tickets are $2, series $7 ($5 at the door).

For more info, call Center Screen, 253-7620.

**IN TOWN**

Dave Mason/Rob Welch are in concert at the Music Hall or Fri., Feb. 17.

Santana is in concert at the Music Hall, Sat., Feb. 18.

Mozart Unveiled: A New Look at Boston's Paintings, a successful exhibition at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston has been extended until Sun., Feb. 19. It features the largest collection of Mozart's works outside of Paris.

A Musical Dream On Ice, the 1978 edition of Shipstad and Johnson's Ice Follies, will be running at the Boston Garden through Feb. 25. Tickets are $4-$5. For more info, call 742-0200.

**IN THEATRE**

Pippin, the Broadway smash, will be running in Boston at the Schubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., thru March 11. Tickets, ranging in price from $9 to $510, are available at the box office (426-4520) or Tele-charge (482-2425).

Deathtrap, Ira Levin's successful mystery-thriller is currently at the Wilbur Theatre, 252 Tremont St., Boston. Performances are Mon. through Sat. evenings at 8pm and Sat. matinees at 2pm. Tickets are available at the box office (422-4008).

Dancin', a new musical directed and choreographed by Bob Fosse will run at the Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston, thorough March 4. Tickets are available at the box office (402-5306) or by Theatrecharge (426-8181).

**Student Art Assoc.**

W20-429 x3-7019 Call 1-5pm 
Continued

Registration

for: Deadline 
Life Drawing and Still Life Feb 20 
Calligraphy Feb 27 
Stained Glass March 2 
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Developing Creativity March 6 
Framing Workshop March 6 
Weekend Pottery Workshop March 6

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Tickets are four dollars per pair in advance and are on sale in the lobby of Building 10 or at all dormitory desks.

sponsored by the UA, SCC, and DormCon

Leigh J. Passman

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(Sun) 
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(Mon) 
Missa Mente Tota 
(Tues) 
Missa Mente Tota 
(Sat) 
Missa Mente Tota 
(Sun)

**Student Art Assoc.**

W20-429 x3-7019 Call 1-5pm 
Continued 

Registration 

for: Deadline 
Life Drawing and Still Life Feb 20 
Calligraphy Feb 27 
Stained Glass March 2 
Plexiglass March 6 
Developing Creativity March 6 
Framing Workshop March 6 
Weekend Pottery Workshop March 6
Teradyne, Inc., with 1400 employees and annual sales of about $60 million, is the world's largest company specializing in the design and manufacture of automatic test equipment for the electronics industry and the many other industries now using electronic devices. We are an international company, with sales, service, and applications centers located throughout the United States, Europe, and Japan. Headquarters and main plant are in Boston, Massachusetts, and we also design and manufacture test equipment in the Los Angeles and Chicago areas.

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If you want involvement with state-of-the-art design and applications, you may be interested in positions available in Boston, the Northern Los Angeles or Chicago areas.

To discuss these opportunities, make an appointment to see our representatives on campus.

Monday, March 6

And if you'd like more information prior to an interview, send your resume to Vin Puglia, Personnel Department, or call collect at (617-482-2700.)
Sports

Swimmers miss 2nd by 1 point

(Continued from page 12)

Among the outstanding swims recorded was the amazing performance of Tim Ranney '79 in the 200-yard breaststroke. Ranney completed the eight laps in 1:34. He was one of six MIT swimmers who swam the 100-yard freestyle race in :51. Two years ago the Beavers had only one swimmer who could accomplish this feat.

Chris Moss '80 set a pool record when he took the gold in the 100-yard breaststroke with a 1:33.6 clocking. In the 100-yard butterfly, Greg Floro '79 picked up a silver medal. Floro's butterfly leg of the 400-yard medley relay will mark the MIT record only six-tenths of a second slower than his performance at the Nationals last year.

For the past few years the backstroke events were the Beavers' weak spots. Mark Huntzinger '81 has changed that. Just one-tenth of a second off the school record, Huntzinger's 2:07.6 in the 200-yard backstroke was good enough for second place. John Dieten '80, who set five school records last year, added to the backstroke effort with a sub-minute swim for one hundred yards. Dieten also won a bronze medal in the 500-yard freestyle missing the silver by only six one-hundredths of a second. Captain Preston Wootnick '79, who also holds five MIT records, finished third in both the 100- and 200-yard breaststroke events. On the diving boards Ken Brady '79 was awarded a silver medal at one meter and a bronze medal at the three meter height.

The team missed three days of practice last week because of the blizzard. Third year coach John Benedick bicycled twelve miles to the pool, because of the driving rain, to run-practice this past Fri-

day, Saturday and Sunday. Tomorrow MIT faces the Bowdoin Polar Bears at the Alumni Pool.


card

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Ask your placement officer to set up an interview with a Navy representative when he visits the campus on February 27, or contact your Navy representative at 617-223-6216 (collect). If you prefer, send your résumé to the Navy Nuclear Officer Program, Code 312-B468, 4015 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, Va. 22203, and a Navy representative will contact you directly. The NUPOC-Collegiate Program. It can do more than help you finish college: it can lead to an exciting career opportunity.

NAVY OFFICER.
IT'S NOT JUST A JOB, IT'S AN ADVENTURE.
WSports

W Gymnasts even record

By Helen Miyasaki

The women's gymnastics team defeated Mt. Holyoke and Smith Colleges Tuesday night to make its record 3-3 for the season. Because of illness, MIT was not at its strongest, but a little determination made up the temporary loss of two members.

After the first event, Mt. Holyoke was leading Smith 28.9 to 26.85. However, Mt. Holyoke won the even parallel bars event by 0.6 points, narrowing Smith's lead.

Excellent routines were evened by both all-around Leslie Harris '81 and Elaine Sears '79 with scores of 8.2 and 7.5 respectively.

Cagers nipped, 54-52

By Alan Ahle

Although the halftime score stood at 23-20 in favor of the MIT women's basketball team, it led the Salem State, which put up 248 points, finishing just one point behind the Beavers picked up 248 points, finishing just one point behind the Beavers. Despite this, the MIT did not interrupt training to compete in the New England championship meet held this past weekend at Harvard's just completed Blodgett Pool.

The men's gymnastics team is currently ranked fifth in Division III schools in the nation. Though they are 0-4 for dual meets, coach Bruce Kenshin is optimistic about their chances in the New Englands. Part of his philosophy is to train through dual meets in order to learn how to deal with the speed of the games. The next meet will be at Dartmouth at 1:00pm.

Saturday against Coast Guard Academy. Bruce Kenshin is optimistic about the team's outlook.

Both routines had front somersaults between the bars, a difficult move seldom seen in small college competition. On the balance beam, Mt. Holyoke was strong and solid with very few falls. This tricky piece of equipment, 4' wide and 4' off the ground, is often the factor that determines the outcome of the meet. Smith lost their lead when each of their gymnasts fell several times, giving them a very low 14.3 total for beam. Mt. Holyoke won this event with 22.2 points. Mt. Holyoke took second with 20.0 but took the lead in total score.

The MIT swim team placed third at the New England championship meet held this past weekend at Harvard's just completed Blodgett Pool.

The MIT swim team placed third in the Greater Boston College Athletic Association championship meet held this past weekend at Harvard's just completed Blodgett Pool.

Preparing for the remainder of the dual meet season and the New England championship meet, MIT did not interrupt training to rest up for this contest. Despite this, both teams became a little wild as the game drew to a close, enabling the score to stay within 3 points most of the time.

With 1:20 left in the game, pursue began. They could not get a shot-off for almost 40 seconds and Salem State scored 4 unanswered points to make it 54-52. Mt. Holyoke scored a shot with 12 seconds left to make it 54-52, but although the crowd cheered them on, they could not gain possession again, so that is how the game ended. A bitter defeat for the Engineers.

Coach Jean Heimay was remarkably even-tempered as she explained the loss. "We gave up too many offensive rebounds," she declared, "and had a few. Our shooting percentage. We should have gotten sixty," she continued. But she also added: "We've come a long way since the beginning of the season. . . . We've got a tough bunch of girls. We're gonna win some ballgames before the season ends. They [Salem State] put more points on the board so that is what they deserve to win.

Mt. Holyoke had strong tumblers on floor exercise to win this event with 53.20. Mt. Holyoke and best idea, but MIT held the lead with beautiful routines by Harris and Wendy Myers '81. Final scores were Mt. Holyoke 92.4, Smith 86.7, and Mt. Holyoke 85.65.

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The next meet will be at Dartmouth at 1:00pm.

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