

## Paul Gray next President



Paul Gray '54. (Tech file photo)

By Steven Solnick

Chancellor Paul Gray '54 is expected to be named the 14th president of MIT at this morning's meeting of the MIT Corporation.

According to informed sources, Gray was chosen by the Corporation Advisory Committee on the Presidency within the last two weeks. The decision was relayed to the Executive Committee of the Corporation yesterday and will be presented to the entire Corporation for approval this morning.

Gray acknowledged his selection and said he was "looking forward to the headaches, heartaches, and happiness of the job." His appointment is expected to be officially announced at a special meeting of the faculty called for noon today, and a press conference for national and local media will follow.

Gray will succeed President Jerome Wiesner, who retires this June. It is expected that Wiesner will become a life member of the Corporation.

According to informed sources, the Office of the Chancellor, which Gray will vacate in June, is likely to be combined with the Office of the Provost. The exact organizational structure of the new administration is to be determined by Gray, however, and he indicated that he will "spend quite some time in the next nine months thinking through questions of structure."

The post of Chancellor was created for Gray by the Corporation in 1971 to provide a "deputy" for the President.

Various informed sources have also indicated that the current Provost, Prof. Walter Rosenblith, plans to retire in June, with the end of the current ad-

ministration. Rosenblith said it would be "premature to comment at this time" and added that his "plans for next year could only be determined after we have a new President." If Rosenblith does retire, the selection of a new Provost/Chancellor would be largely at the discretion of Gray.

Today's faculty meeting is scheduled for 12:15pm in room 10-250. The result of the Corporation election will be announced to the faculty there. The meeting will be open, but visitors will be limited in the event of a large faculty turnout. No other issues, such as selection of a new Dean, are expected to be discussed.

Gray has been at MIT since entering as an undergraduate in 1950. He served as Associate Dean for Student Affairs, where he was an early proponent of freshman pass/fail, and then as Associate Provost under then-Provost Wiesner. He became Dean of the School of Engineering and finally became Chancellor in 1971, when Wiesner was elected President.

The Corporation Advisory Committee, which was chaired by Carl Mueller, and the Faculty Advisory Committee on the Presidency, chaired by Professor John Waugh, were formed early this year in order to make recommendations about the new President as well as about the Office of the President itself. Both committees interviewed candidates throughout the summer.

Gray said that for the last year, since President Wiesner confirmed he would be retiring, he "has been in a state of suspended animation."

## Wellesley revises liquor policy

By J.A. Moore

Although no official statement has yet been issued, a new school liquor policy went into effect last weekend at Wellesley College. For the first time since April, when state law raised the legal age from 18 to 20, drinks were served at Wellesley parties. All of last week's parties were extremely well-attended, and while some felt that the presence of liquor "didn't make any difference," most partygoers were pleased at the policy change.

In part, the new policy is a response to what had been a rapidly increasing problem of illicit on-campus drinking. "When the law was changed in April," said Campus Police Chief Barry Monahan, "the school immediately issued a no-drinking statement. No one, legal age or not, was allowed to have alcoholic beverages in any of the common spaces on campus." This raised quite a reaction from the student body, but when classes let out in May, the issue still had not been resolved.

A Student Alcohol Commission was formed to voice the student opinion on the issue, and the commission began a series of regular meetings with the administration and Florence Ladd,

Dean of the Students' Office. An official policy change was delayed for the summer, however, due to another issue that was brought up by the State Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission.

The town of Wellesley, where the school is located, is a "dry" town. No alcoholic beverages may be bought or sold in Wellesley with the exception of drinks purchased at specially licensed restaurants. John Larkin, chairman of the Commission, felt that by charging admissions to its parties, and then providing free drinks inside, the college was guilty of selling liquor without a license.

## Tech Talk refuses ad

By Kent Pitman

Tech Talk is currently refusing to run advertisements for individuals trying to sell the half-price coupons given out by several major airlines this summer.

According to Joanne Miller, Assistant Director of the MIT News office, Tech Talk published advertisements for the coupons during the early summer, but when asked by the Comptroller's Office not to continue allowing

The administration decided to work on resolving the issue during the summer. When school reopened in September, however, the policy remained unchanged, and it quickly became evident that a revision was urgently needed. Chief Monahan explained: "We began to encounter behavior utterly foreign to Wellesley College. Students could no longer drink inside parties, so they would arrive already pretty well tanked-up, or go outside and drink in the parking lots. At the Alumnae Hall party several weeks ago, things were bad. There was no serious trouble, but all our men were kept busy trying to keep

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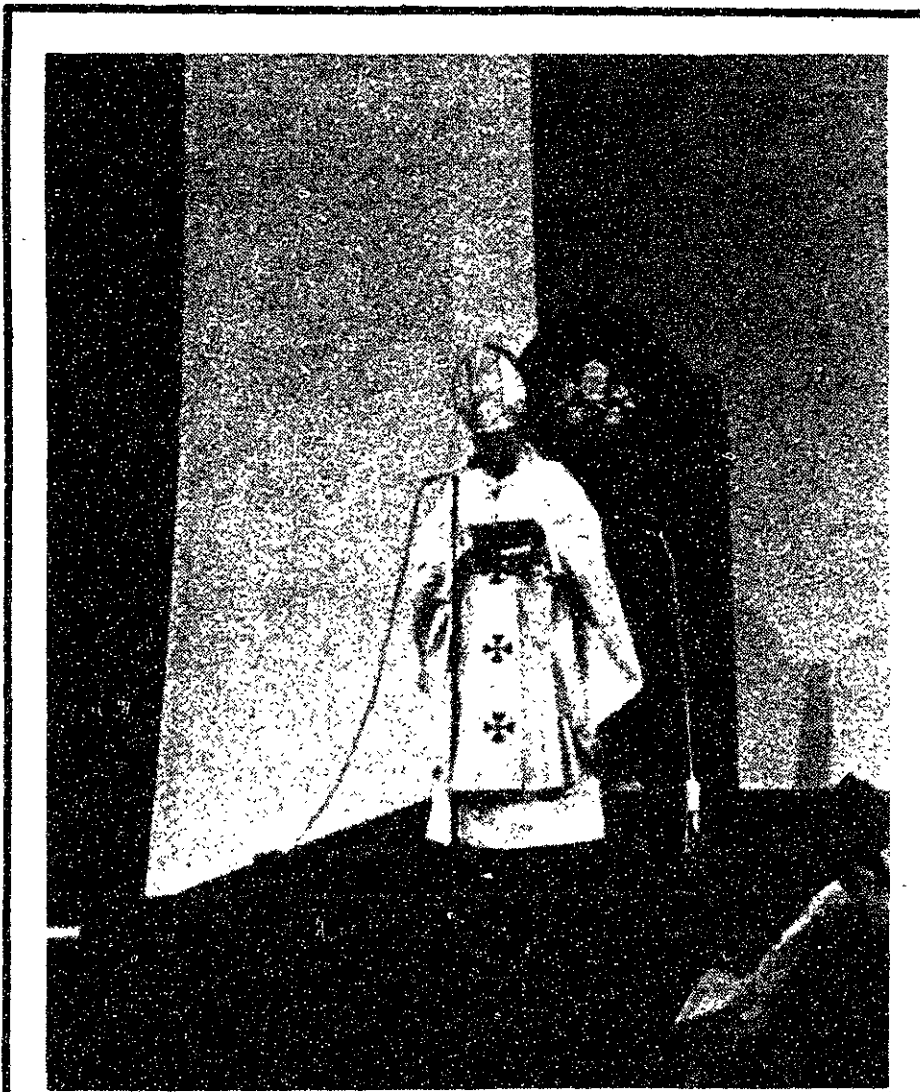
them, "we acceded to that request."

Robert Sullivan, Assistant Accounting Officer for Travel and the originator of the request, explained, "we didn't want the Tech Talk people to make a decision as to whether these coupons had been obtained by personal or by Institute travel."

Since the airline coupons are a new phenomenon, MIT has no explicit written policy on how they should be treated, Sullivan explained. There is a general rule of "no profit, no loss," however. He therefore concluded that persons obtaining the coupons on Institute travel "are obligated to return [the coupons] or to use them in future Institute travel."

Sullivan explained that his office was being "very cautious" and wanted to avoid the sponsors' "feeling that there was even a chance" that these coupons were obtained on travel for which they had paid. At least on sponsor had specifically requested that the acquisition of these coupons on money received from their organization be strictly monitored.

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Under heavy rains, Pope John Paul II appeared Monday on the Boston Common. (Photo by Erik Sherman)

## Dorm thefts discussed

By Laura Farhlie

Editor's note: This is the first in a two-part series on dormitory theft and vandalism.

The theft rate in the MIT dormitories has had its ups and downs during the past five years. Peaking at a \$26,011 property loss in 1974, the theft rate declined steadily to a low of \$8,837 in 1977, and then soared back up to \$15,617 in 1978. The amount of theft this year is projected to be slightly lower.

According to Chief Olivieri of MIT's Campus Patrol, the most common reason for thefts is unlocked room doors. The most popular items taken are wallets, cash, stereos, and other appliances.

The rate of theft is mostly due to outside circumstances. In 1974, a group of outsiders on drugs robbed the dorms incessantly in order to pay for their habits. Burton House was hit worst of all, losing \$5,918 in valuables that year. Four people in the gang were finally apprehended. A similar situation occurred in 1970, when the theft rate reached an all-time high of \$54,000.

Certain dormitories have policies to discourage intruders and theft. East Campus is described by Olivieri as "quick on the phone." People in the dorm question all unfamiliar people, and if they do not give a

(Please turn to page 3)

## inside

Our theatre critic visited *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, and was shown a good time. Page 7.

Starting Over displays another facet of Burt Reynolds' comedic talent. Page 8.

The Cars returned home from their nationwide tour to provide a decent show for the folks at home. Page 9.

Athletic director Ross Smith is retiring after 19 years at the Institute. Page 12.

# news roundup

## World

**Dollar up, gold down** — Gold prices tumbled below \$400 an ounce Wednesday as nervous traders worried that the US Government might take steps to defend the dollar. No such moves were announced, but the dollar continued to strengthen. In the Tokyo market, it closed at 225.475 yen, up roughly 1.5 yen from the day before. Said a New York foreign exchange dealer, "They're still looking for Washington to come out and say something good." Dealers said many sellers feared gold would drop if the United States mounted an effective rescue package for the dollar.

## Nation

**Political battle set in Cleveland** — Mayor Dennis "Smiko" Kucinich is preparing for a political brawl with Lt. Gov. George V. Voinovich for the Mayor's office. Kucinich, who overcame a recall attempt last year by only 236 votes, survived Tuesday's five-way primary to advance to the Nov. 6 election, but he trailed Voinovich by a substantial margin.

**Carter to challenge draft-Kennedy gifts** — President Jimmy Carter's re-election committee is expected to file a complaint with the Federal Election Commission alleging that the "principal purpose" of the draft-Kennedy groups is to defeat the President, and that they may have already exceeded legal funding limits, as a coordinated election effort.

**Energy Mobilization Board given approval** — The senate soundly defeated two attempts to weaken President Carter's proposal to create a powerful new agency, the Energy Mobilization Board, to speed construction of new energy projects. The Board will have broad powers to push for construction of new facilities, including synthetic fuel plants and oil refineries. The Environmental Protection Agency will have veto power over some projects, and the Interior Department would also have to certify that a project would not be a danger to wildlife.

## Local

**Seabrook demonstrators warned** — New Hampshire Governor Hugh Callen warned yesterday that demonstrators intending to occupy the Seabrook nuclear power plant construction site this weekend should be ready to "pay the price" for their actions. Said Callen, "If you're going to be involved and you're going to be involved in the damage of private property, be prepared to pay the price and suffer the consequences in court." The Coalition for Direct Action at Seabrook, a faction of the antinuclear Clamshell Alliance, is calling for thousands of people from all over the nation to converge on Seabrook in what is being called the largest civil disobedience event in antinuclear history.

— By Richard Salz

## Weather

Some sun early, but becoming mostly cloudy by late in the day. Daytime highs near 69. Rain beginning tonight, ending tomorrow morning. Lows will be 50-54. Variable cloudiness Saturday, with best conditions in the afternoon. Highs 63-67. Cooler Saturday night with lows 46-50. A few more clouds around on Sunday, but no rain is expected. Highs 60-64. Outlook for Monday & Tuesday: cool and mostly sunny. Daytime highs near 60, lows in the 40's.

## Liquor may now be served at a Wellesley party

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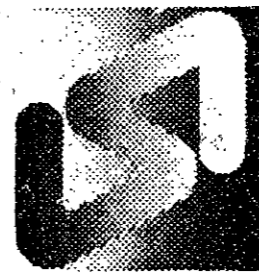
things under control. And the next day, the campus was a mess. There were cans all over, and the parking lots were covered with broken glass."

In response, the administration again met with Dean Ladd and the SAC, and issued the tentative policy that was first tried last Friday evening. Liquor would be allowed to those students over the age of 20, but only one drink could be had at a time, and all drinking had to be confined to a designated area. "It was similar to a bar," explained SAC member Linda Milhaven. "Student monitors stood outside and checked ID's. If you were over the legal age, they gave you a special hand stamp, and you were allowed to get drinks."

Everyone agreed that the new policy was a big improvement. "Those who are legal can now get drinks," said one party-goer, while another added that "with most of the juniors and seniors able to get drinks, the others are not as likely to go out and drink in the parking lots." Chief Monahan reported that the lots and grounds were indeed much cleaner after last weekend than any previous weekend, and that there was absolutely "no trouble whatsoever."

There is still one point in the new policy which remains controversial. To avoid the state charge of selling liquor illegally, any group holding a social function at Wellesley wishing to serve drinks will no longer be able to charge admission. Many groups and organizations use such gatherings as fundraisers, or at least hope to break even on their expenses. Now, however, charging admission means that they won't be able to serve liquor. The combination of an admission charge and no alcohol will probably decrease the attendance at such gatherings, while the provision of liquor thwarts any hopes of fundraising. "It's a real problem," said Milhaven, "and it's something we'll have to work on."

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# notes

## Announcements

Freshman ID's and pictures are available in the Undergraduate Academic Support Office, 7-103, and should be picked up as soon as possible.

\* \* \* \*

MIT Seniors interested in university teaching who plan to start graduate school next September are eligible for a **Danforth Foundation Prebaccalaureate Fellowship Award**. A similar award is available to graduate students pursuing their doctorates. The application date is Oct. 19. Interested students should contact Dean Jeanne Richard in the Graduate School Office, 3-136, x3-1869.

\* \* \* \*

Students interested in volunteering to work in the Cambridge Public Schools in all aspects of curriculum from the high school through to the elementary level should call **Cambridge School Volunteers** at 498-9218

\* \* \* \*

Freshman evaluation forms are due on Fri., Oct. 19. Instructor turn-in deadline is Wed. Oct. 24.

\* \* \* \*

Oct. 12, 1979 is the last day for juniors and seniors to change an elective to or from pass-fail grading

\* \* \* \*

Add Date is Oct. 12, 1979. It is the last day to add subjects to registration.

\* \* \* \*

The Class of '81 is sponsoring a float competition for Homecoming '79. Prizes will be awarded.

## Airline coupons ads declined

(Continued from page 1)

"For MIT people we trust, we are sure there is a degree of honor" and these coupons will be returned or used in Institute travel at a later date.

"We did go to the people [who might obtain coupons] directly but you see, many things can happen..." He described a scenario in which a flight might be canceled without warning and a person might take a different flight than he had been originally scheduled for, receiving a coupon from a different airline than the one by which he would later be billed.

Spokesmen for American Airlines explained American's view of the coupon sales: "It's just a free market." They did, however, caution that buyers should beware of the possibility that they are receiving a counterfeit. Counterfeit attempts have been uncovered in various parts of the country, and computer verification of the coupons is being used effectively by the airline companies.

Applications, available in the UA office, W20-401, are due Oct. 10. For more information, contact Theresa Prisby, dl 8324.

\* \* \* \*

The Cambridge Chamber of Commerce, in conjunction with the Cambridge Job Matching Center, is sponsoring "Job Expo '79" Oct. 27, from 10am to 2pm at Fantasia Restaurant, Cambridge. For more contact Barbara Sullivan, 876-4100.

## Lectures

Jay W. Forrester, director of the Systems Dynamics program at Sloan, will speak on Inflation at the **Cambridge Forum**, 3 Church St., in Harvard Square on Wed., Oct. 10, at 8pm

\* \* \* \*

Bruce Cass of Oenophilia, a San Francisco-based wine educational firm, will be teaching a four-day seminar at Boston University, Oct. 31 to Nov. 3. The seminar will cover California's wine regions and the growth of small wineries. For more information, contact Sharon Dudley at the **Wine Institute of New England**, 283-7233.

## Burton house security is lax

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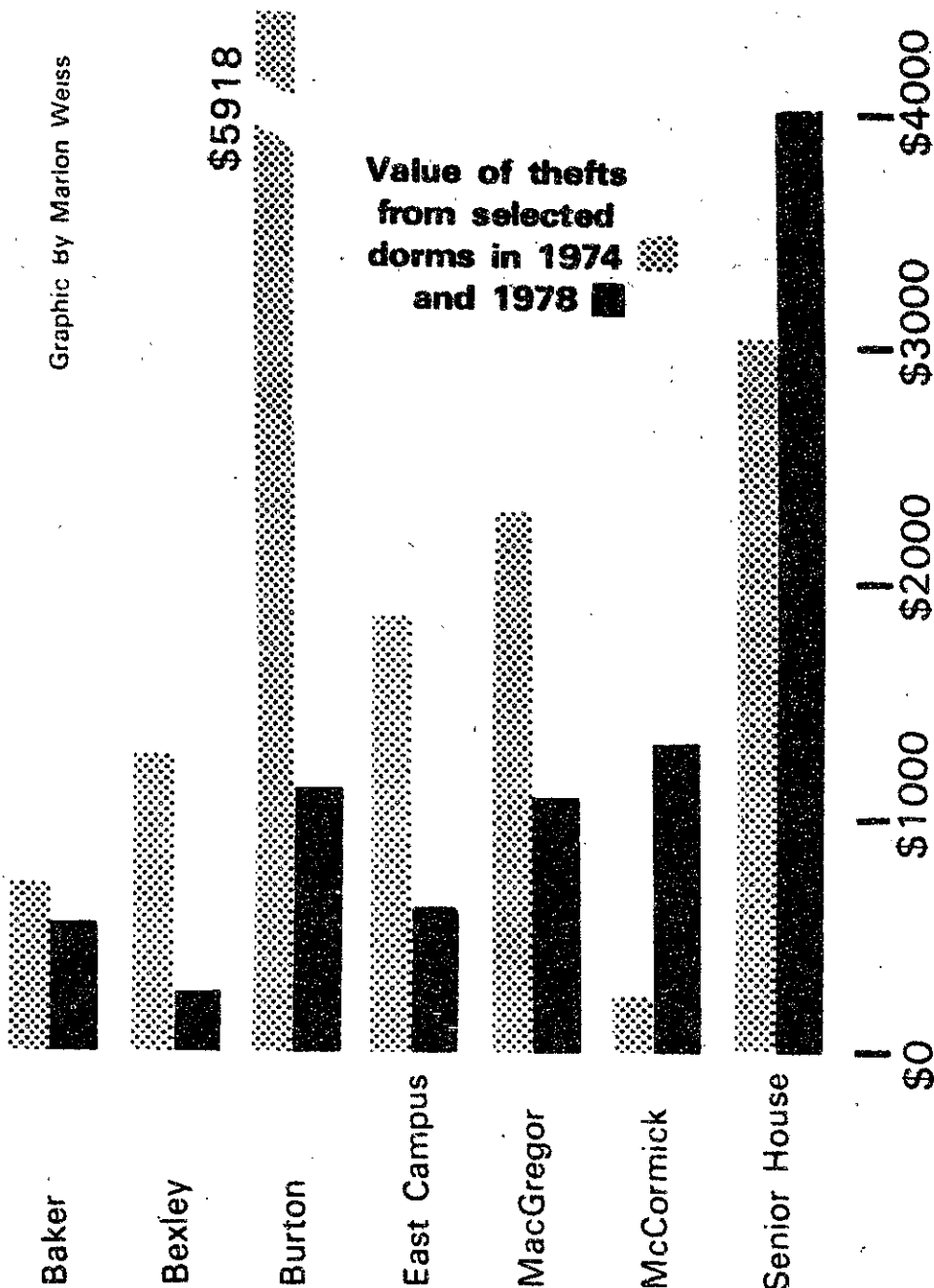
reasonable explanation, Campus Patrol is called.

Baker House has a unique vandal control system. If an outsider will not leave the dorm despite several warnings, then a person from Baker rings the "urchin alarm," consisting of two bells. Immediately, every person in the dorm grabs something, such as a stick, and appears at the scene.

Olivieri commends East Campus and Baker House as "equally attentive," but he has some criticism of the other dorms. He claims that despite various notices hung on the walls of Burton, Campus Patrol does not get the message across to the dorm. The chief also complained that McCormick and New House have become lax in theft control this year.

Olivieri feels the solution to the problem is raising the students' level of awareness. He noted that unfortunately, when there are few robberies in a dorm one year, the students' level of concern slackens off the following year, and more thefts occur. As a result Olivieri is putting out bulletins and having them posted around the dorms. Also, Officer Anne Glavin is making a slide show on theft and vandalism which will be presented to the student body.

Graphic by Marlon Weiss



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John Molitoris

## Ways of dealing with the 'slobovians'

The Boston-Cambridge area a civilized semi-intellectual environment that is home for a good number of college professors and students. We can see ballet, enjoy the BSO, experience a Shakespearean play or do a multitude of other things that tend to enrich our lives and are most enjoyable. Yet, like all active communities, there are the negative aspects: going out for a late night walk and finding two gentlemen applying a crow-bar to lock on your motorcycle; those gouges on the door of your apartment which tend to appear around the lock; the fellow who is carrying a television set out of your apartment. It is the little things such as these that tend to upset one. Not to mention the people on the street inviting you to dinner, giving you flowers, trying to convince you that you need a personality test, asking for spare change, etc. How do you deal with things like this? A lot of it can be ignored, but sometimes it can't. When it can't, there other ways.

### Dealing with a semi-intelligent person

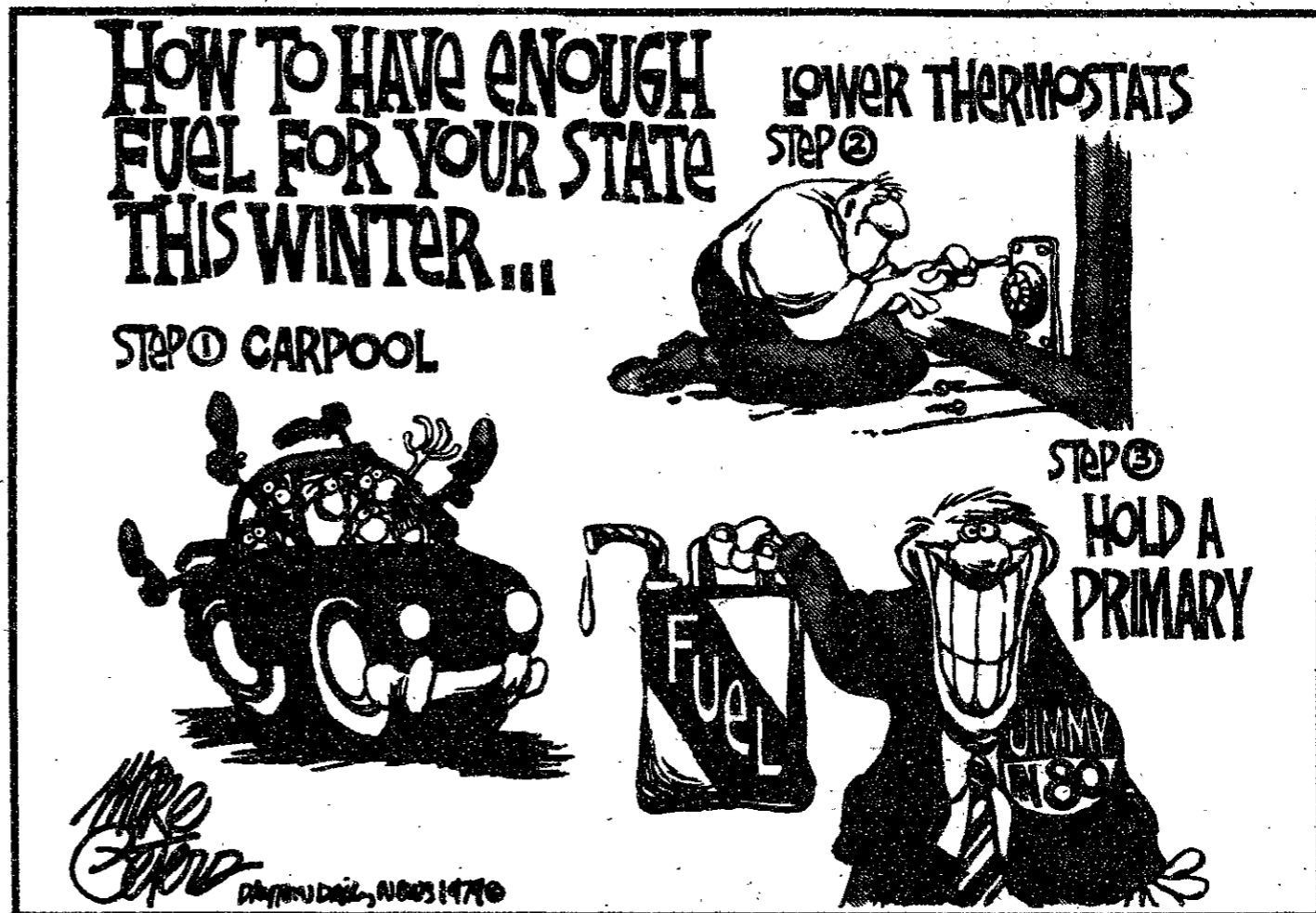
I lived in Berkeley last summer, which is very much like Cambridge (except for the fact that people out there ask for specific amounts of change, i.e. "Can you spare 43 cents?"). The students I met out there had some interesting ways of getting along. One method, which works if you are dealing with a semi-intelligent person, is just to make him feel very uncomfortable. For example one girl was stopped by a few fellows who demanded all the money she had. She said that she didn't have any, so one of them told her to stick her hands in her pockets and look. All this time she had been keeping her hands in the pouch pocket of her sweater. She looked at the guy and very solemnly said, "I have no hands." Then she stared at the ground and walked away. They did not say a word, nor try to stop her and I assume they probably felt pretty small.

There were two young ladies who were real artists at this. They would usually go to a bar with a group of people for a rowdy time. In the course of the evening, a few obnoxious jokers would come over and be very persistent with them. (Of course, the guys in the group could have intervened, but that gets messy). The girl would give a fake name ("Sarah") and a fake phone number (dial-a-joke, hari krishna, or the student library). The rest is classic. One guy started to ask "Sarah" about her "home town" and went on to comment on what a great place it was. "Sarah" replied that the place rots and brings back memories of her parents beating her. In fact, everything this said to "Sarah" brought back unpleasant memories. In about five minutes he was running to find his friend, when just before he was threatening to cause a scene to stay.

### Defame your character

The thing you must realize is that this method breaks down when the people you are dealing with are real lower slobovians (which is the type of person you find carrying your stereo away.) This person assumes that his "clients" are reasonable, sane people. So, in general, all you have to do is convince the gentleman that you are not a "reasonable, sane person." (Don't worry about defaming your character: you won't need a recommendation from this fellow.) I had a friend who would just act "very extreme" when he was faced with the appropriate situation. One time we caught a guy in his apartment, the door forced. This intruder said that he saw the door open, and walked in (which did not explain what he was doing to the stereo). Almost smiling, he added that we didn't have anything on him and we could call the police. My friend went over and shut the door. He then smiled at our guest and said, "Why would I want to call the police?" as he took a baseball bat out of the closet. The guy was gone before you could blink an eye.

These are just some ways of dealing with unreasonable people. I am sure that there are others, but these are very effective. However, in some cases, just walking (or running) away is best.



Guest column / Barbi Hill

## IFC chairman's views on rush

*Editor's note: Barbi Hill is chairman of the Interfraternity Conference*

Each year the same strident observations of Rush are discussed. I would like to address two of the common issues, flushing and the MIT system of Rush, with the intent that discussion this year will progress beyond the level of "wouldn't it be nice if" to become serious consideration of how it really ought to be.

**On flushing.** The Independent Living Groups, through the IFC Rush Chairman, sent letters each summer to freshmen and their parents explaining the general workings of Rush, several of the Rush rules, and the phenomenon known as "flushing":

...please don't take it personally if a house suggests that you might not fit in well with them. Instead, take the advice in the spirit in which it is offered. Rush Week is short, and the houses themselves know each other better than you, a newcomer, can, and if a house feels that you won't fit in with them, they will generally suggest a house where you would probably be happier.

I feel that any "flush" technique stronger than that is probably not appropriate. However, it is much better for a freshman to be told early in Rush which houses are not interested, so that he/she may cultivate those that are. But perhaps our wording is not strong enough to match reality. Freshmen, what do you feel you should have been told about "flushing"? Most freshmen eventually participate in Rush, but during the summer many are not yet interested in fraternities and do not read the mailings. How could we communicate this information more effectively? Will stressing this one, possible unpleasant experience deter freshmen from participating in the fun of rush week? Even with the hectic pace and new surroundings, most students seem to remember their own Rush week as a "good time."

**On the MIT system of Rush.** Time and again, it has been suggested that the MIT Independent Living Groups adopt a more traditional form of rush, perhaps a more casual term-time rush with new members entering the house as sophomores. Reasons for this include the view that MIT Rush resembles a "meat market" in a depersonalizing flurry of circus-

like activity. It is feared that freshmen are caught up in the excitement of rush and make "hasty" decisions as to where they will live for the next four years. Perhaps if the houses have more time to get to know the freshmen, they will be more able to locate members willing to contribute time and energy to making the house work.

There is resistance to a change

**Erik Sherman**

## Waiting for the Pope

After waiting nearly 2000 years, Boston was finally given the chance to greet the Pope.

After waiting nearly two weeks, *The Tech* was ready to cover the story.

I found myself on the red line at 1:20 in the afternoon and arrived at Park station in what I hoped would be enough time to find a good vantage point.

Walking towards the Common, I noticed a strange group of people around a non-working fountain. They had shaved heads and were wearing salmon-colored, loose-fitting clothing. They were yelling "Hare Krishna, Hare Krishna; Krishna Krishna, Hare Hare. Hare Rama, Hare Rama; Rama Rama, Hare, Hare..." This is a common sight on the

of this kind in many of the Independent Living Groups. In fact, I share a resistance to any kind of change in the structure of rush. This stems largely from two sources, the first being a fear of "what might happen".

Honestly, we do not know how MIT houses would fare under another system — we cannot look to other large fraternity systems

(Please turn to page 5)

Common, but held a rather ironic flavor then.

Strolling across the Common, I looked for good subjects to photograph. I had borrowed a camera and two telephoto lenses from a person on *Technique*. We had managed to win only one ticket in the lottery, and so could not sent a separate photographer.

A line of uniformed persons was stretched along Beacon Street, from Park to the end of the Public Garden. Every fifty feet, a member of the National Guard, looking extremely uncomfortable, stood. They were rather comical, unarmed and starched in place. Occasionally, a person would cross the yellow rope boundary. A guardsman would immediately

(Please turn to page 5)

## feedback

### Grid column off target

**To the Editor:**

Robert Labarre's article on MIT's football team in last Friday's (9/28) issue of *The Tech* showed me that there will always be people who find a need to criticize the success of others.

Labarre's claim that MIT can win all the time given a shabby team to play against was completely uncalled for. Perhaps Mr. Labarre needs to be told about the athletic philosophy here at MIT. MIT fields more teams than any college in the country, but the school has no athletic scholarships or recruiting of any kind. The student-athletes train hard, and want to win as badly as anyone. But, unlike many schools, the only pressure here to win is self-induced.

When I want to evaluate the "strengths and weaknesses" of some really good football teams, I stay home and turn on the TV. When I want to spend an after-

noon with some friends cheering on my classmates, I go and watch an MIT athletic contest. These games are not played at the level of competition found at many Division I schools, but this does not detract from their entertainment value. Indeed, there is a thrill derived from watching one's roommate run for a TD or make a tackle that cannot be obtained when one is watching a game whose players are just names in the newspaper.

Labarre closes his article by claiming that this year's team is much improved over the team of 79 years ago. I don't know how he reached this conclusion, but it is this obsession with "how good the team is" that is out of place at MIT. I can only hope that most students appreciate MIT sports for their participatory nature, rather than their won-lost records.

Allan J. O'Connor G

# The Tech

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Volume 99, Number 37  
Friday, October 5, 1979

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# Opinion

## R/O feedback wanted

(Continued from page 4)

as equivalent to MIT. Would the distance of many houses from campus thwart the casual interaction necessary to successful term-time rush at other schools? Would MIT students be able to invest the time necessary to overcome the feelings that a student is "deserting" his/her dorm friends by participating in fraternity rush? Would these factors combine to sacrifice houses, not in the manner of "survival of the fittest" but by "survival of the hard rush tactic", sacrificing the healthy diversity that has characterized the MIT fraternity system?

The second consideration is the perception that we already have a system that works reasonably well. Why mess with a good thing? While fraternity systems across the country are declining, the MIT Independent Living Group system continues to grow and improve. The students are generally happy wherever they decide to live. Would the freshmen be happier if they had more time to make the choice? Would students view the living groups more as bands of friends than small dorms if the selection process were slower? Would

fraternities include more "brotherhood" if relieved from the pressures of being necessary housing?

I offer these ideas in attempt to continue the examination of Rush begun in last Friday's *Tech*. There is presently no effective method for encouraging constructive criticism of rush policies, especially from those who have been the most intimately involved this year — the freshmen. I would greatly appreciate any communication about Rush Week experience, views, or general ideas. Part of the IFC's purpose is to provide a forum for such discussion and to implement responsible changes which the IFC, meaning a confederation of all the Independent Living Groups, determines to be in the best interests of its students.

## The Pope meets Boston

(Continued from page 4)

usher the person out. I think that the Guard was being especially sharp to avoid angering the Secret Servicemen who were present.

Governor King ensured an abundance of security men for the occasion. Air Force reserves were patrolling the Common itself. Army reserves and Boston Police circulated around the perimeter of the Common.

Since my ticket only allowed entry on the corner of Charles and Boylston, I had to walk around the Common. On the way, I was accosted not less than three times — once by someone advertising himself as "Brother John" — to purchase a button with the picture of the Pope on it. Each person would walk up, try to pin a button on me, then ask for a donation. I was broke as usual; they the pins back very

quickly.

On the Common, there were a large number of people selling commemorative buttons, certificates, flags, pictures, programs, bumper stickers (printed with "I saw the Pope in Mass."), and sandwiches. The only thing that was missing was a glow-in-the-dark T-shirt emblazoned with the Pope's face.

The Krishnas began to chant and dance again, this time closer to the altar that was constructed. After a short time, they were completely quiet. I do not know why.

People began to settle in for the duration. The sky was getting grayer and a drizzle had begun. Some people began to shout "It's holy water!"

It was raining heavier when it was announced that the Pope had landed. The noise of the crowd began to pick up. Oddly enough,

no one seemed very impatient. Everyone near me had high spirits and was in good humor; I was rapidly becoming tired of the rain.

As the Pope was driven around the Common, a cheer from the crowd followed. The noise was tumultuous as the Pontiff stepped atop the platform.

When the Pope spoke, I began to shake my head. He was saying nothing. He spoke for America, Mom, and apple pie. He sounded, for all the world, like a political candidate. I took a few more pictures, then gave up. I was not close enough for a good photo, and if I listened to any more of his speech, I would either fall asleep or become sick. Either would be most uncomfortable in the rain. As the rain washed the words off my notebook, I turned my back and left.

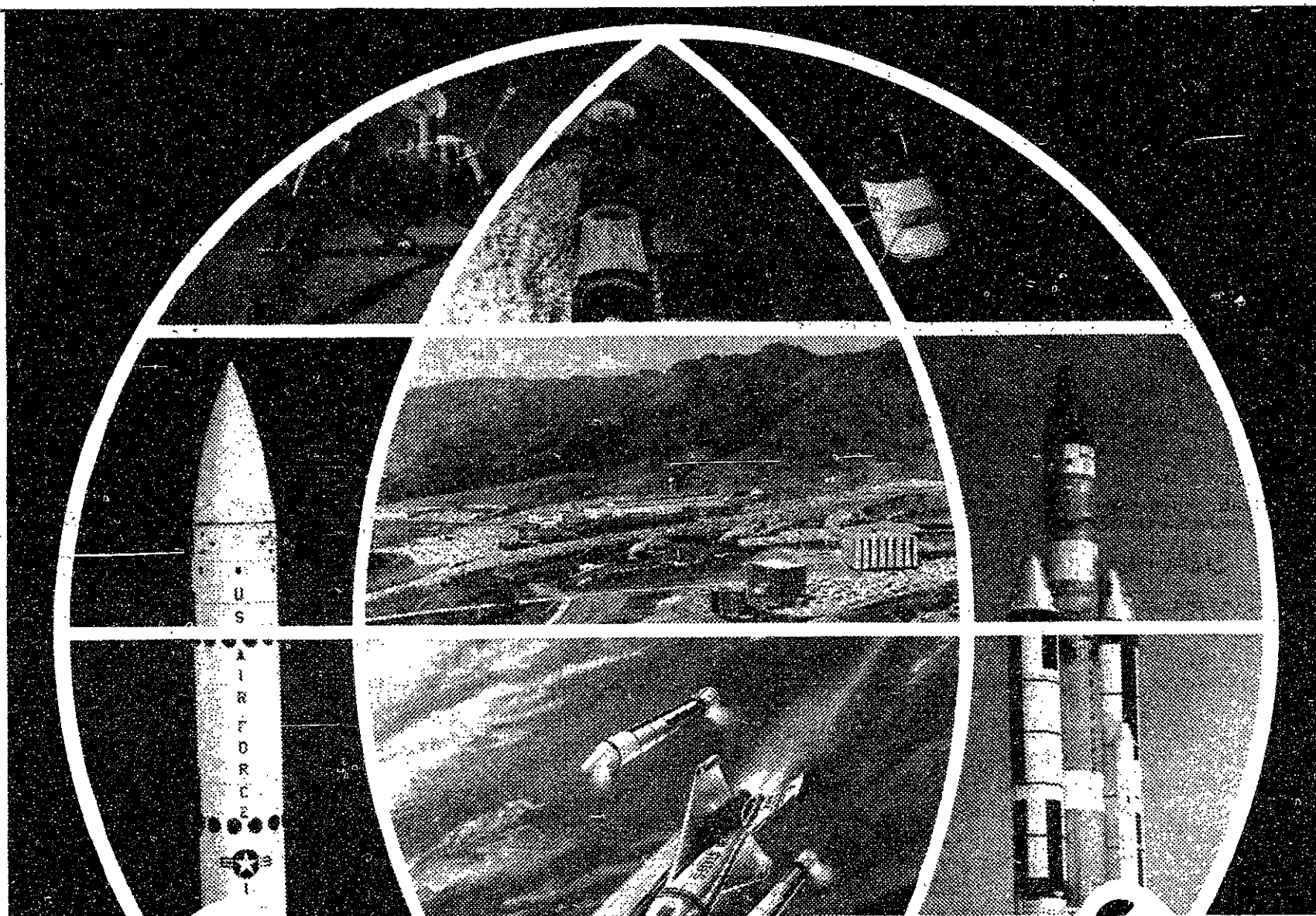
Columns are usually written by members of *The Tech* staff and represent the opinion of the author only, not necessarily that of the rest of the staff.

Letters to the Editor are written by members of the MIT community and represent the opinion of the writer.

*The Tech* will attempt to publish all letters received, and will consider columns or stories. All submissions should be typed, preferably triple spaced, on a 57-character line. Unsigned letters will not be printed. Authors' names will be withheld upon request.

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# Whorehouse provides entertaining evening

**The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas**, starring Alexis Smith, William Hardy, and Larry Hovis; book by Larry L. King and Peter Masterson, music and lyrics and Carol Hall; directed by Peter Masterson and Tommy Tune; now playing at the Shubert Theatre, Boston.

The Theatrical world has been subjected to a number of musical trends. In the sixties, the rock musical found favor; with the seventies came a plethora of musical reviews; and now, at the Shubert, you have the chance to view the newest innovation in theatre: the country-western musical.

*The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* is based on the true story of a bordello called "The Chicken Ranch", named for the bags of poultry with which farmers paid for services during the Depression.

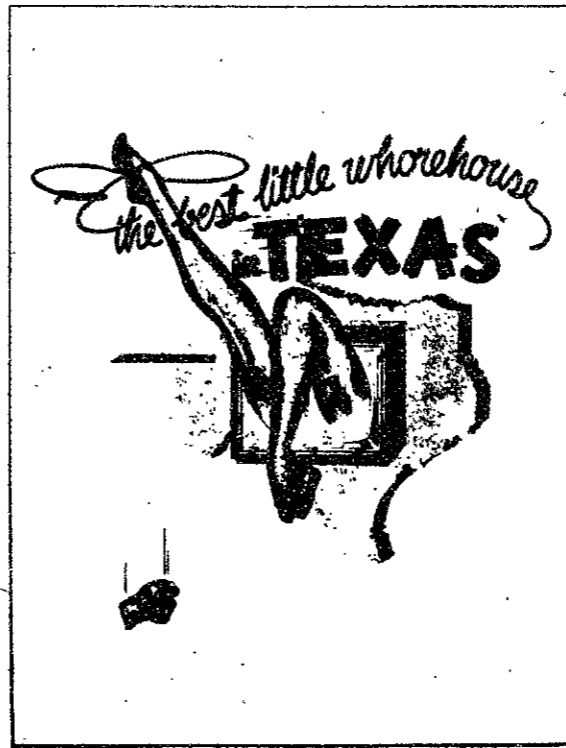
Miss Mona Stangley (Alexis Smith), owner of the establishment, runs a clean and "lady-like" house. With the tolerance of Sheriff Ed Earl Dodd (William Hardy), business has been continuing for over twenty years. However, Melvin P. Thorpe

(Larry Hovis), muckraking reporter from the "Watchdog" news, incites public opinion against the Chicken Ranch. The rest of plot deals with how Mona and the Sheriff try to ride out trouble while entertaining a state Senator and a football team during Thanksgiving.

"Whorehouse" seems to have more than the usual number of (if you will excuse the expression) ups and downs. When the show is good, it is quite funny, but the weak points seem poor by comparison. Authors Larry King and Peter Masterson are no exception to this problem. The characters are well developed throughout the play; however, the dialogue at times seems to be the product of an "Andy Griffith Show" episode written by Redd Foxx.

Carol Hall's music also does not escape inconsistency. While a country music orchestration for most of the numbers is becoming, the addition of a slide guitar ruins a 50's "bop" number.

The structural inconsistencies do not detract from the overall quality of the show. Miss Smith is capital as Mona. She carries herself with a regal grace, and yet remains sensitive to the other players. Hardy is credible as the Sheriff, although



his acting is no match for that of Smith. He "talks" his song, a stylistically difficult technique, and not terribly effective in this instance.

Hovis, better known as Carter in "Hogan's Heroes", is rather disappointing. His characterization of Thorpe would do greater justice to a bible-thumping, radio minister. His singing is worse; he swallows his words, and is often inaudible.

Some of the minor leads are striking in their roles. Mona's maid Jewel, played by Marilyn Johnson, easily has the best voice in the cast. Barbara Marineau, the only hold-over from the Broadway cast, is first-rate in the role of Doatsey Mae, the waitress. The ensemble is excellent, with Tom Avera outstanding as the Governor of Texas.

The direction by Peter Masterson and Tommy Tune is polished, utilizing Marjorie Kellogg's unit set to the utmost. They have achieved a smooth and natural flow to the action, creating a very tight production.

Choreographer Tommy Tune has blended country-style clogging and tap into exciting production numbers that leave the audience begging for more.

*The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* is not a dramatic milestone; nevertheless, it is a good show. Looking for a good time?

— Erik Bryan Sherman



Alexis Smith delivered an outstanding performance as Miss Mona in *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*.

## on the town

### Movies

**Alice in Wonderland**, the MidNite Movie, Sat., Oct. 6, second floor of the Student Center.

*This weekend's LSC lineup:*

**Cousin, Cousine**, Fri., 7 & 9:30, 26-100  
**The Blue Angel** (Classic), Fri., 7:30, 10-250

**Interiors**, Sat., 7 & 9:30, 26-100

**Lolita**, Sun., 6 & 9:30, 26-100

**Fahrenheit 451**, Francois Truffaut's futurist film from Ray Bradbury's novel is featured in the Museum of Fine Arts' series "The World of Francois Truffaut" on Saturday, October 6 at 2 pm. Tickets are available at the door of the Museum's Lecture Hall prior to the screening at a cost of \$2.

**Classics of Science Fiction Film**, a chronological survey of science fiction features and shorts, is presented at the University of Massachusetts/Harbor Campus, Large Science Auditorium on

Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm. Series begins on Oct. 3rd. For title and transportation information call Boris Karloff at 287-1900, ext. 3234. FREE.

### Music

**Jonathan Richman** at Brandeis University (Levin Ballroom) Saturday, October 6 at 9pm. Tickets are \$4.50 general admission and are available at Ticketron, Out-of-Town, and Brandeis Student Service Bureau.

**Ictus**, an original jazz/fusion septet, will be performing at the Sunflower Cafe (Harvard Square) on Sunday, October 7 at 9pm. The performance will also be broadcast live on WCAS.

**Jean-Luc Ponty** at the Orpheum Theatre, Friday, November 1 at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$8.50 & \$7.50.

**Billy Joel** at Boston Garden, Monday, November 12 at 8pm. Tickets are \$10.50 & \$9.50.

**Jethro Tull** with U.K. at Boston Garden,

Sunday, October 21 at 8 pm. Tickets are \$8.50 & \$7.50.

**The Grateful Dead** at the Cape Cod Coliseum, Saturday & Sunday, October 27 & 28 at 7pm. Tickets are \$8.50 in advance, \$10 day of show.

**Chick Corea and Gary Burton** at the Berklee Performance Center, Sunday, October 21 at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$9.50 & \$8.50.

The Hub Opera will present a professional production of Mozart's **Don Giovanni**, in English, fully staged, and with orchestra. The production is hosted by Suffolk University Theater, 41 Temple St., Boston, behind the State House on Beacon Hill. Performances are Friday, October 12 (8 pm); Sunday, October 14 (2:30); Friday, October 19 (8 pm) and Saturday, October 20 (8 pm). Tickets \$3.50 — \$6.50, student and senior discounts, ARTS/Boston vouchers welcome. For reservations and more information, phone 542-3200, Mon-Sat, 10am-6pm.



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# Reynolds starts over in new comedy

☆☆☆ **Starting Over** Starring Burt Reynolds, Jill Clayburgh, and Candice Bergen. Screenplay by James L. Brooks; Directed by Alan J. Pakula; Produced by Alan J. Pakula and James L. Brooks. A Paramount Pictures release. Starts today at Sack Pi Alley and neighborhood theaters.

This film is somewhat difficult to approach. Certainly it's a Burt Reynolds movie, but it is courageously unlike Burt's string of successes (*Semi-Tough*, *The End*, *Hooper*, *Smokey and the Bandit*). There are no car chases, no clapstick scenes, no stunts (well, maybe one), and no moustache. Sally Field is nowhere in sight. And yet, it's pretty funny.

Reynolds portrays one Phil Potter, who is thrown out by his wife, Jessica (Candice

Bergen), and, in gloom and despair, does what is logical and moves to Boston. Eventually he's paired off with Jill Clayburgh (portraying, once more, an unmarried woman), and the expected happens — but in unexpected ways.

As is common with divorcees, they can't seem to get dating right. They're scared and a little bewildered, which leads to odd dialogue and some amusing scenes. "I want to have sex with you," he says earnestly. "Can't you personalize it a little?" she says. "I want to have sex with you, Marilyn?"

That line is more obvious than much of the film, so jumping to conclusions may get you nowhere. First, Potter wants his wife back, then he doesn't. He and Marilyn agree on a platonic relationship, and soon change their minds. Marilyn leaves him, then moves in with him. Jessica wants him back. Marilyn throws him out. Left. Right. Up. Down. *Starting Over* is certainly good at misdirection.

Too good, at times. For example, Jessica's character and her singing form a kind of credibility gap. For every high point in her life — marital independence, etc. — she writes and sings a top-40 song. These songs (composed by Marvin Hamlisch and Carole Bayer Sager) aren't too bad, but her singing is. Bergen presents a serious character here, and the music would make



Phil Potter (Burt Reynolds) finds himself between lover Marilyn (Jill Clayburgh) and ex-wife Jessica (Candice Bergen) in *Starting Over*.

decent background score — but as soon as she opens her mouth, all farce breaks loose. Since she only sings twice, her credibility more or less survives.

It's pretty funny. The humor hovers near a medium level, and peaks every so often. One scene finds Clayburgh the "volunteer" in a carnival dunking booth, and currently at odds with Phil, who spends about \$10

throwing balls at the target. In another, Phil attempts to make his barren Boston apartment liveable by buying \$700 worth of furnishings and leaving the store with a parade of shopping carts. Phil is obviously at ease spending money, even if he isn't at post-marital love affairs.

— Shawn Wilson

**The Tech's movie rating system:**

- ☆☆☆☆☆ a classic
- ☆☆☆☆ excellent
- ☆☆☆ very good
- ☆☆ decent
- ☆ of some merit
- avoid at all costs

\* Autumn \*  
\* Semi-Formal \*  
\* Dance \*

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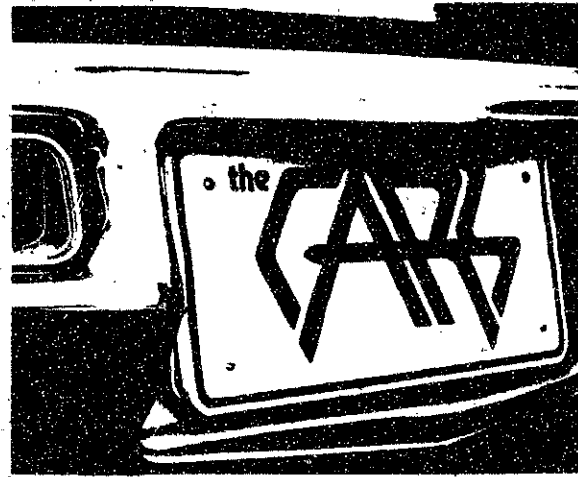
# Cars open for the Pope, but no Thrills

The Cars with Thrills at the Music Hall, Monday, October 1.

I walked out of the Park Street stop and headed toward the Music Hall, but my progress was interrupted by a barrage of vendors selling Pope t-shirts, buttons and pennants. Old women wielding shopping bags swarmed about, occasionally colliding with the kids selling Cars t-shirts. My ears were assaulted on one side by an angelic choir's rendition of the *Kyrie Eleison*, and on the other by some random auto blaring "Good Times Roll" - it was hard to tell the difference. When the sidewalk finally cleared, I continued my journey, waving to ol' John Paul II as I passed the outdoor stage; I thought he waved back, but he was probably blessing the derelicts.

The Music Hall was a totally different scene. Up in the nosebleed section (read "balcony seating") I amused myself by watching the crazed fourteen-year-olds experiencing the effects of their first beer. The Gestapo was out in full force, aiming flashlights at smokers (of any substance) and then hustling the guilty parties out of the Hall. I finally understood what Pete Townsend meant by "teenage wasteland."

The horribly distorted pre-recorded new wave music screeching out of the PA system ceased, only to be replaced by the screeching, horribly distorted new wave



music of Thrills, the opening band. Thrills enjoys a sizeable local reputation, regularly delivering devastating performances at The Rat; but their set this night made it obvious that they were not quite ready for larger venues. The sound was absolutely atrocious, with the bass and drums drowning out the guitar and vocals. The group seemed a bit nervous about playing a big hall, and this did not help their show. The one redeeming feature was the stage presence of lead singer Barb Kitson. Dressed in a skintight black body suit and a head of flaming red hair, she provided enough energy to hold the crowd's attention through the dismal set.

Thrills left the stage and the PA screamed back to life, only now the new

wave tunes were replaced by a recording of "Autobahn," the once popular synthesizer doodling by Kraftwerk. There was supposed to be a connection between cars and autobahns, but most of the adolescents didn't know what an autobahn (highway) was, so the effort was wasted.

The Cars finally appeared and immediately launched into "Got a Lot on My Head," following it nonstop with "Good Times Roll." It was worth the wait to hear these tunes live, there was a raw edge in the performance that rendered them superior to the studio versions. The pace of the set was accelerated by two tunes from the recent album: "Let's Go" and "Nightspots." It seemed unusual for a group to open with three of their strongest songs, because the rest of the show would seem anticlimactic, but I was proved wrong when the Cars returned to tunes from their first album. "Moving in Stereo" and "All Mixed Up" were the peak moments of the set. The rest of the show, predictably enough, was filled with the remainder of the tunes from both albums. When you only have ninety minutes of music to perform, you can't toss out the weaker tunes. The attempts to rescue the weak songs sometimes succeeded ("Best Friend's Girl" and "Don'tcha Stop"), but also failed ("Since I Held You" and "Double Life").

From a musical standpoint, the Cars proved that they were just as good live as they were in the studio. Elliot Easton's lead guitar work was phenomenal, often carrying the rest of the band through the lighter material. The keyboard contributions of Greg Hawkes became much more evident on stage, where one could hear that he was more than background filler. The most surprising aspect of the performance was the vocal work; Ocasek and Orr's lead vocals were clear and powerful, and Easton and Hawkes' harmonies never missed the mark.

The performance would have been brilliant - if the sound system had been adjusted properly. The sound through most of the set was much too bass heavy, and the attempts to provide more response in the upper registers resulted in distortion. Wednesday night Elliot Easton, while guesting on WBCN, apologized profusely about the poor sound quality, explaining that the PA system used was for a large arena rather than a theatre; but it was too late to obtain the adequate equipment. For most of the wasted teens this apology was unnecessary, since they probably thought the sound was fine. For those of us in unaltered states the concert was at best marred, and I hope the Cars will get the chance to vindicate themselves.

- David Shaw

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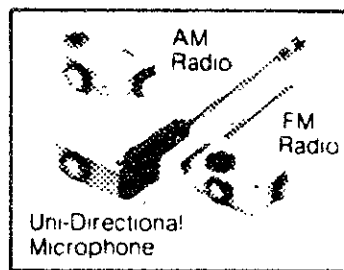
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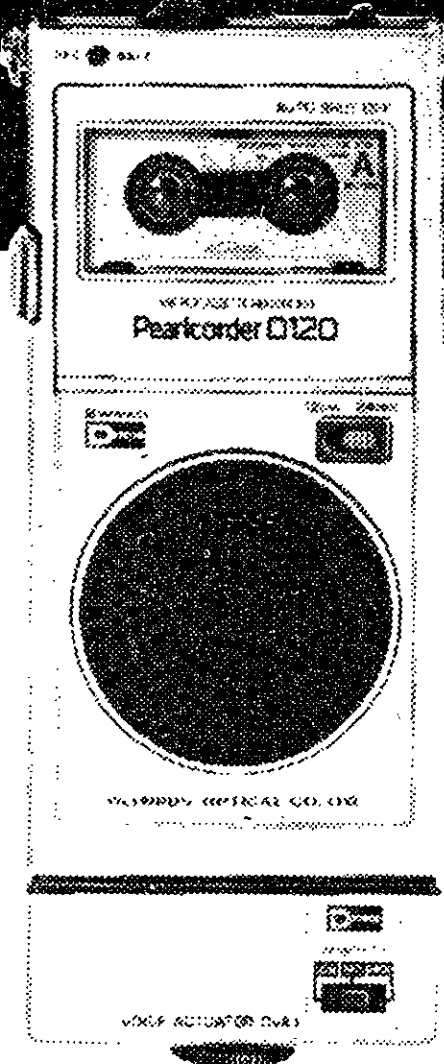
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COMEDY  
ISSUE  
OCTOBER

The Beaver

By Glenn Ackerman



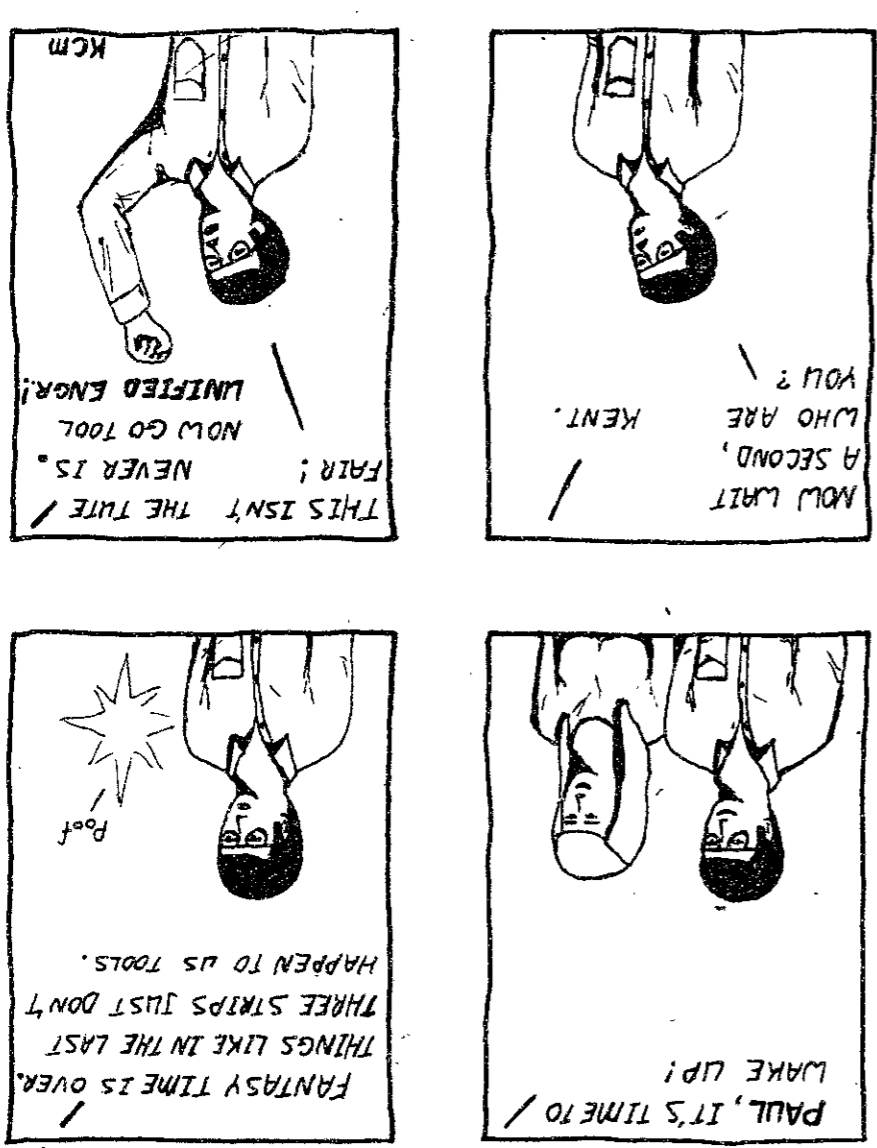
Dybosphere

By George Plotkin



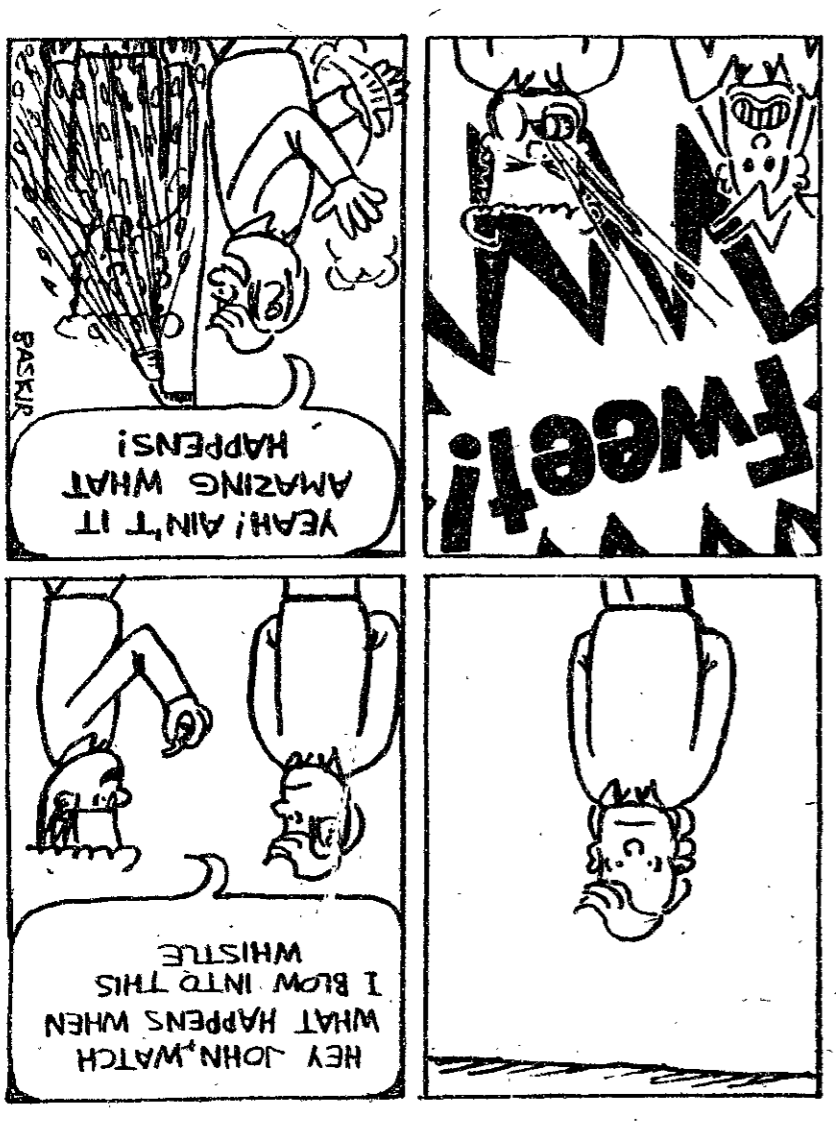
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## People of downtown Boston



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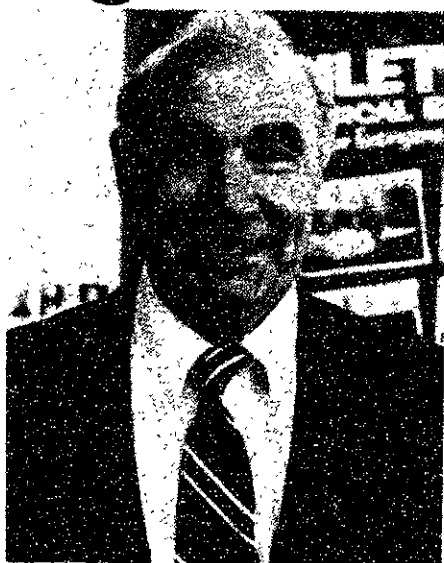
## Smith retiring from athletic director's job

By Bob Host

Athletic director Ross H. Smith will retire at the end of this academic year, Institute Vice-President Constantine B. Simonides told the Athletic Board at its dinner Tuesday night at the Faculty Club.

Smith, who will step down at the normal retirement age of 65, has been athletic director at MIT since 1961. His successor will be chosen in a nationwide search by a committee chaired by Prof. James W. Mar, chairman of the Athletic Board. The committee will consist of from seven to nine members, including faculty members, students, alumni, and perhaps someone from the athletic department, according to Simonides.

The committee will advise Simonides, under whose jurisdiction the athletic department falls, and furnish a short list of candidates. According to Simonides, anybody can be a candidate, and anyone on the committee will be allowed to nominate a candidate. Within two weeks, the remaining members of the committee, as well as the guidelines that the committee will follow, will be determined. Simonides and Mar will be assisted in completing the selection of the committee by



Ross H. Smith, athletic director since 1961, is retiring at the end of this year.

members of the athletic department, the President and the Chancellor.

The head of the MIT Athletic Association, Steve Pettinato '80, stated that the search committee is scheduled to have a preliminary list of candidates by February 1980, and that a successor to Smith is expected to be named before the next academic year begins.

Simonides stated that the athletic department will not be revamped, in contrast with the reorganization of the Dean for Student Affairs (DSA) Office. He

added that the athletic department is not a subdivision of the Dean's Office, and as such, it reports to his office in matters such as these.

Comments about Smith's tenure from long-time members of the athletic department were generally favorable. Tennis coach Ed Crocker, a member of the Athletic Staff since 1957, remembers the development of new facilities that occurred during Smith's reign, specifically the J.B. Carr Indoor Tennis Center, which came about largely through the efforts of Smith, who worked closely with Carr on the matter. The ice rink/field house/events center that is presently under construction has been in the planning stages for seven or eight years, Crocker added, and has been kept alive "largely through his [Smith's] persistent efforts." This occurred, the coach went on, in the face of some "very discouraging statements about the economy" which threatened to kill the project.

Gordon Kelly, head track and assistant football coach, who came to MIT in 1962, one year after Smith, noted that the director "runs a good department" and is a "good administrator." He added that the completion of the track and the entire Steinbrenner Stadium complex was due to Smith, who "pulled it off with Steinbrenner" when that project, too, was facing a shaky financial future.

Intramural supervisor Dave Michael, who came to MIT in 1963, stated that Smith "bent over backwards" to help intramurals, and that he has no quibbles with the man. However, he added, as did the other coaches, that Smith spends a great deal of time working on NCAA and other related projects;

Michael hopes that the new director will spend more time in day-to-day operations of the programs at the Institute.

Smith, who succeeded Richard L. Balch as athletic director in 1961, is a 1936 graduate of Springfield College, which currently boasts at least five alumni on the MIT athletic staff, according to Kelly. Smith served as the assistant athletic director as well as director of physical education at Cornell before coming to MIT. He had served as the varsity soccer and freshman basketball coach there starting in 1947, and was named head lacrosse coach in 1949, a position in which he stayed when named assistant athletic director and physical education director three years later. One of his most recent positions was as chairman of a committee which organized rifle as an NCAA-sanctioned sport.

### score board

#### Friday

Baseball 9, Mass. Bay Community College 3  
Bowdoin 8, Women's Tennis 1  
Water Polo 16, Monmouth 15

#### Saturday

Football 20, Roger Williams 0  
Cross Country 24, Wesleyan 78  
Cross Country 24, Coast Guard 35  
Trinity 2, Soccer 1  
Bates 5, Women's Tennis 4  
Volleyball 3, Northeastern 0  
Ohio State 14, Water Polo 10  
Fordham 18, Water Polo 8

#### Sunday

Framingham State 6, Field Hockey 0  
Men's Sailing: 12th in Danmark Trophy  
Women's Sailing: 9th in Man-Labs Trophy

### on deck

#### Friday

Men's tennis, ECAC Tournament at Princeton  
Crosscountry vs. Lowell at Franklin Park ..... 4pm

#### Saturday

Men's Tennis, ECAC Tournament at Princeton  
Men's Sailing, Three Crew Team Race ..... 9:30am  
Soccer at Bates ..... 11:30am  
Baseball vs. Babson ..... noon  
Field Hockey at Clark .... 1pm  
Volleyball vs. Eastern Nazarene and Smith ..... 1pm  
Football at Fairfield ..... 2pm

#### Sunday

Men's Tennis, ECAC Tournament at Princeton  
Women's Tennis, GBCAA  
Water Polo, Yale League Tournament  
Women's Sailing, Victorian Coffee Urn at Radcliffe ... 9:30am  
Men's Sailing, BU Trophy 9:30am  
Men's Sailing, Tufts Invitational ..... 9:30am

#### Monday

Baseball vs. Lowell (2) ... noon  
Field Hockey at Gordon 3:30pm

#### Tuesday

Soccer at Brandeis ..... 3pm

#### Wednesday

Water Polo vs. Phillips Exeter ..... 3:30pm

#### Thursday

Women's Tennis vs. Clark 4pm  
Volleyball at Bridgewater State ..... 6pm

#### Friday

Water Polo, Brown Invitational  
Women's Tennis vs. Holy Cross ..... 3pm

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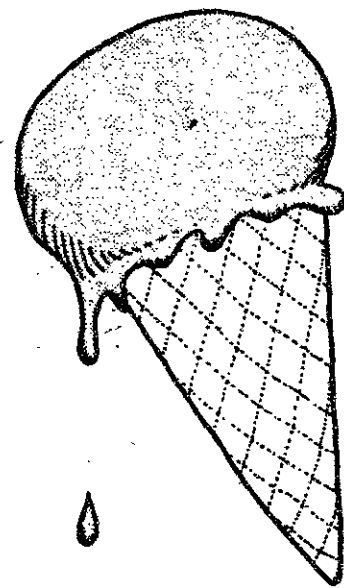
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