United Artists to film movie scene in Walker Memorial

By Joel West and Katy Gropp

MIT's Walker Memorial will provide a backdrop for a scene from Small Circle of Friends, a United Artists' release which will begin filming at Harvard and MIT this April.

The film, which is set at a men's school in 1967, will feature actor Brad Davis, last seen in Midnight Express, and director Robert Cohen.

The Facilities Use Committee and the Walker Use Committee agreed to allow the company access to Walker on the condition that all actors be used as paid extras for the scene. A local casting company will be interviewing the first 100 men that show up at room 66-110 this Thursday at 2pm. Of this number, approximately 80 will be hired. Short hair is preferred.

Because Walker is an east campus dining facility, preference may be given to dinner service workers. According to John Kassakian '65, student advisor to the committee, "We wish to introduce the new admits to MIT life. When you haven't been to MIT it can be an awe-inspiring place. Students are apt to come if they visit MIT. Having talked to MIT students is also a plus in their decision," Richardson said.
Dining viewed as Dean's office responsibility

(Continued from page 1)

Cions would be to enhance the current situation to "take advantage of the wide diversity of the MIT environment." Suggestions have come up addressing the problems faced by individuals who cook for themselves, including educating those who have never cooked before, have been made. Another proposal, establishing an on-campus food cooperative for students, has met with nearly universal approval.

The one proposal likely to meet with substantial opposition is a combined room-and-board plan — in effect compulsory commons. The primary rationale behind the idea is to improve student-student interaction; thus, the plan seems to be oriented towards freshmen. Although it had been considered for all dormitories, Kassakian quickly pointed out that such an idea would make little sense, for example, for Random Hall residents; it was noted that the most likely dormitory for such a plan would be Baker, though other dormitories were possible. He commented that one of the most interesting aspects of working on the committee was to observe the dramatic turnaround by students on the working groups from total opposition to compulsory commons "to almost a real appreciation that of a missionary" in favor of the idea.

Kassakian felt that the most positive outcome of the committee's work would be "a very firm sense that the dining program is an ongoing responsibility of the Dean's office." After the committee's work was completed, the problem he said he felt that must eventually addressed was the construction of the Whitaker College, which would necessitate another dining facility on the east side of campus. He stressed, however, that CCE's work was far from complete, and encouraged students to comment to either him or other committee members.

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Members of Theta Chi kicked off the first MIT student telethon. Alumni pledged $71,450 for the Campus Residence Fund. See story, page 1. (Photo by John Boland).-

The Advisory Committee on Shareholder Responsibility (ACSR) will hold its first meeting on Thurs., Mar. 22 at 5:30pm in 10-300. All members of the MIT Community are invited to attend. Topics discussed will include the Sullivan Principles, divestment, ground rules for the ACSR, and several upcoming proxy proposals. For more information contact the Committee's secretary, Walter Milne, at x-5278 (Rm. 3-208), or the two student members, Chris DeMarco (547-3960) and Dan Saltzman (x-8021).

The Greater Boston Chapter of the Muscular Dystrophy Association is sponsoring the third annual Great Boston Dance Marathon. The marathon will take place at Northeastern University, starting on Fri., Apr. 27 at 7pm, and ending on Saturday at 10pm. Prizes will be awarded to some of the participants. The registration deadline is Apr. 10. Students wishing to register should call the MDA at 890-0300.

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Needed: A Justice of the Peace to perform a wedding May 28th in McConnell. Call x-5141 and leave a message.
The university and society

Two weeks ago, Harvard University President Derek Bok did something which no other university president has tried to do. On March 9, he issued a statement entitled "Reflections on the Ethical Responsibilities of the University in Society: An Open Letter to the Harvard Community" in which he outlined how he felt the university should respond to such issues as South Africa and the Neste boycott. Although his letter was aimed specifically at Harvard, his comments are relevant to all institutions of higher education.

A foundation for dealing with the issues

The bulk of Bok's statement is devoted to setting a foundation for dealing with the issues. He states that universities must consider not only the ethical principles on which they act, but also the practical constraints under which universities take a position, but also the negative indirect effects which might result from taking sides. He notes that if the university has an official position on an issue, it is too easy for students and professors to speak out against that position. Furthermore, he says society as a whole may not like the position of universities and try to impose sanctions on them.

Also, taking certain positions could lead to financial losses and economic collapse of the university, according to Bok. Finally, he notes that the deliberation required for the university to decide its position could take "hundreds and hundreds of hours... away from regular academic work." All the points Bok raises are legitimate. However, there are still many times when universities should take positions. Bok recognizes this.

He notes that universities have to take positions in their routine academic activities. He says that not to pursue affirmative action is a de facto university must make.

Also, he says universities have a responsibility to take a position on policy resolutions. Finally, he says universities should take positions on issues in society like the Baker case which directly affect universities.

Universities can have an effect

The really controversial part of Bok's statement is how he would approach certain issues such as South Africa and the Nestle's boycott. Given his reservations. He indicates that he does not believe that issues are included among those on which the university has responsibility as shareholders to vote on Waoxy decisions universities must make. Also, he says universities have a position, but also the negative indirect effects which might result from taking sides. Furthermore, he says society as a whole may not like the position of universities and try to impose sanctions on them.

Two weeks ago, Harvard University President Derek Bok did issue a statement entitled "Reflections on the Ethical Responsibilities of the University in Society: An Open Letter to the Harvard Community" in which he outlined how he felt the university should respond to such issues as South Africa and the Nestle boycott. Although his letter was aimed specifically at Harvard, his comments are relevant to all institutions of higher education.

To the editor:

The decision by MIT to postpone the "Purim Party" organized by the so-called "Jews for Jesus" and its subsequent failure to enforce that decision highlights and exemplifies some of the dilemmas in the concept of free speech and religion. That dilemma arises when persons or groups such as the "Jews for Jesus" abuse free speech in asserting the right to deceive and trick others, or distort freedom of religion to justify attacks on other beliefs.

This point is debatable, however. Some people would argue that decisions on which goods to purchase and which investments to make are important parts of the routine activities of universities even though purchases and investments are directly academic.

Bok also states "neither as stockholders nor as purchasers nor as contractors of services do universities possess sufficient leverage to move large corporations, let alone governments.

Although this statement is somewhat true, it represents a very bad attitude. No boycott could succeed if each individual thought that he might not like the position of universities and try to impose sanctions on them.

The difficult part is handling issues which lie between the two extremes. The Jews for Jesus proceeded to speak out against that position. Furthermore, he says society as a whole may not like the position of universities and try to impose sanctions on them. The "Jews for Jesus" and MIT have been advertised under the title "Jews for Jesus and MIT Seekers to worship with others of the same ethnic origin.

There is no ethical insult implied by the desire of certain black students and Chinese students at MIT to worship with others of the same ethnic origin. Why should there be a religious equivalent, for Jesus, of the "sPu rim Party" of God, and the world represented by these religions, without interference from the Facilities Use Committee and the Provost's Office?

I would also like to make the observation that the members of Jews for Jesus have never asked whether or not I was a Jew before offering me a tract, and that they do not restrict their evangelism to any one group.

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South Africa is not the worst oppressor

To the editor -

The call to divest has been sounded again.

Once more we are being told about the evils of South Africa. South Africa, they cry, is Repressive. It is ruled by a Minority. And worst of all, South Africa is, horrifically so. In the silent absolute ultimate abomination, making mere political repression seem positively liberal. In other words, South Africa is Bad.

Now we in the United States are Good. Since we are Good, we must not in any way support any government that is Bad. Therefore, if a certain government is repressive, or is not supported by the majority of its people, or is in any way Bad, we must not have anything to do with that government. In fact, we must take steps to have that government replaced with one that is Good. Namely and to wit, MIT should divest itself of stock that has anything to do with Bad South Africa, since such investments support Repression and thus are not Socially Responsible. Suppose we forget for the moment that such an attitude totally ignores geopolitical reality, and that one could such a proposal be adopted, students at MIT would be hurt a lot more than South Africa would, and examine this argument logically.

Proponents of divestment claim to be opposed to "repression" and "minority rule" when they attack South Africa. Now, the point has been raised before, but have said it before, but bears repeating: There are many other regimes in this world that are far more repressive than South Africa. If you do not have anything to do with South Africa, since such investments support Repression and thus are not Socially Responsible.

There are a dozen other regimes more repressive than South Africa I can name without even thinking hard, like Chile, Nicaragua, or Uganda, or South Yemen, or Vietnam, or the former regime in Cambodia. So the very same people who condemn South Africa should be protesting conditions in the states represented, and demanding divestment of stock in any corporation involved with them and calling for Majority Rule.

To my knowledge this has not happened. I don't recall the formation of a Coalition against Pol Pot, or a "Committee to Free Olof Palme," or any other movement to act by insisting that this "Purim Party" be postponed, and be rescheduled only if this "Purim Party" be postponed, and be rescheduled only under the supervision of the Facilities Use-Committee. Name withheld by request.

Propovest the proper decision

(Continued from page 4)

name - the "Jews for Jesus" have demonstrated that they cannot comply with such policies.

An Institution such as MIT, whose first responsibility is to protect the well-being of its students and provide for their education, is under no obligation to push freedom of speech and religion to the absurd limits needed to tolerate the antics of Ron Newman complains that, by refusing to recommend that computers and photographic equipment not be sold to South Africa, MIT helps "maintain its repressive regime." Consider, please, the fact that the United States sold computers, ball-bearing machinery, and other high-technology equipment, and an entire heavy truck plant (1) to the Soviet Union. This not only helps maintain the repressive regime there, it actually reinforces a direct threat to our own existence and well-being. Yet MIT has taken an "institutional position" here. Last May, the ACSR rejected a recommendation to avoid dealing with Communist countries.

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Chamberlain directs The Shadow Box

The Shadow Box, a two-act play by Michael Cristofer, starring Frank Converse, Betsy Palmer, directed by Richard Chamberlain. Now playing at the Charles Playhouse.

By Joel West

The plaudits for The Shadow Box are numerous, a Tony and a Pulitzer Prize among them. And yet, taken together, while the current production and the play itself are very good, they are only near-perfect.

The play attempts to tackle a weighty and important concept: the role of hope in people's lives, and how it is affected by the imminent specter of death. The action takes place in a resort in the mountains of California, where three individuals wait to die. The three, and their respective loved ones, are oblivious to each other and interact separately throughout most of the play.

Each of the three "families" is introduced when the respective terminal patient comes onstage and carries on a dialogue with an unseen interviewer (James Oster). Joe (David Sabin) is in the first, a tiring New Jerseyite who could be from Death or Salvation's Willy Loman transplanted into the 1970's. His wife Maggie (Karen Shulte) is dutifully supporting, while his only child Steve (Bob DeRosa) is at the "gee-whiz" stage of his life.

In the second group, Brian is the 50ish intellectual played by Frank Converse, with Betsy Palmer as his ex-wife Beverly, a fan-loving dancer, and Tony Blake as Brian's handsome young lover Mark. The third family is an aging but spunky grandmother figure Felicity (Elizabeth Fleming) who is attended to by her unloved daughter Agnes (Alexandra Borrie).

And therein lies the problem. It is bad enough that Cristofer chose his characters from literary cardboard; but most of them seem to have come pre-printed, with only a slight coloring here and there to add any semblance of originality.

The character of Brian holds the most promise. Intelligent, sensitive, and yet incomprehensible to himself and those around him, he is the only character who is not aptly summed up in two sentences. Converse's interpretation at times is brilliant, as real as if he himself were going to die in 6 months. At other times, however, he becomes a confused presentation of a confused character. That the character should pose problems to such an obviously talented actor is a reflection on the writer's ability, but one would hope these problems are that the actor can iron out during the play's six-week run.

Betsy Palmer steals the show. Someone who has enjoyed life to its fullest, toughened by her education in the college of hard knocks, she nonetheless very much cares about what has happened to the man whose life she once shared. When onstage, Palmer totally dominates Blake and is clearly in control in her scenes with Converse.

The only other individual that does an exceptional job with a complex character is Alexandra Borrie. Constantly being compared to her mother's favorite daughter Claire, Agnes is nonetheless the one who ministers to her mother's needs during Felicity's inerminable path to the grave. Though she has some good scenes in the first act, Borrie's big moment comes in Act II, when she realizes she is trapped in a situation of her own making.

By comparison, the other characters and actors warrant only cursory attention: while only the performance of Tony Blake has serious flaws, the lesser characters are severely lacking in depth. Bob DeRosa is at the "gee-whiz" stage of his life.

Let there be no mistake made: while most of the characters are shallow and the finale is disappointingly stiff and cliched, The Shadow Box is undeniably good theatre. In tackling such a difficult subject, Cristofer and Chamberlain have chosen the standards by which they wish to be judged, standards by which they fall short. This does not stop The Shadow Box from being one of the best (if not the best) dramas to hit Boston this season.
Dramashop premieres

Rendez-Vous

Photos by Chuck Irwin

By David Shaw

Last weekend Dramashop presented a pair of one-act performances: The Rendez-Vous, a chamber opera; and Black Comedy. Both works represented unusual interpretations of the standard one-act play.

The Rendez-Vous was written and conducted by Andor Kovacs, Visiting Professor and Composer-in-Residence. The story deals with Paul, a would-be Don Juan who awaits the arrival of his mistress. Just before she arrives he learns that the plane she rode was the site of a smallpox breakout. The rest of the opera deals with his attempts to avoid her amorous advances. Kovacs’s sparse, modern score and excellent singing made the opera quite enjoyable.

Black Comedy treats a common scenario in an unusual manner: the play opens in absolute darkness, yet the characters go about their business as always until a blown fuse causes a blackout — this is when the lights come on. The characters then act out the play as though they were in complete blackness. An excellent script and superb acting by some of the cast had the audience in stitches, and demonstrated the fine talent in Dramashop.

There will be a UA General Assembly Meeting this Wednesday, March 21 at 7:30 pm in room 400 of the Student Center.

Vice President Constantine Simonides will talk about the Dean’s Office. He will be presenting his findings at Wednesday’s Faculty Meeting (3:15 pm in 10-250), and will be at the GA Meeting to discuss his findings and the related proposals using the Faculty Meeting presentation as background.

Come to both meetings and find out what’s going on.
IM Council picks new members-at-large

By Gordon R. Haff

At its March 11 meeting, the IM council elected three new members-at-large: Steve Aschenbrenner '81, George Dowd '81 and Paul Mahoney '81. The primary topic which all three discussed was the referee problem. All discussed the possibility of having PE classes in refereeing — which has since come to pass — and Mahoney also mentioned that he would "like to see more publicity to living groups on campus to find trained refs."

In addition, candidates discussed their feelings on the enforcement of eligibility rules. They all agreed that violations such as the junior high school player who played for Sloan School's hockey team were totally uncalled for.

Their only disagreement came on the point of the enforcement of "technical eligibilities" in the

Reffing courses offered

By Gordon Haff

This coming quarter, the Physical Education Department will for the first time in several years be offering courses in refereeing. These courses, being instituted primarily to increase both the quantity and quality of IM referees.

The two courses being offered are soccer refereeing, taught by Walter Alson (Varsity soccer and lacrosse coach) and softball umpiring, taught by Debbie Clum (Women's Varsity field hockey coach) and softball umpire. These courses have the potential to rescue IM's from this problem.

In view of some of the recent problems with player abuse of referees, it has become obvious that it is not enough for a referee to have good technical skills — he must also be able to deal with game situations — for example, getting a player off his back.

These courses have the potential to rescue IM's from this problem. To be successful, however, there must be active student support. The registration will begin with the regular PE signups on Monday, April 2.

Zeta Psi

Half Time

(Women's Varsity field hockey and softball coach). These courses will stress not only the written rules but also those qualities which make a good all-around official, according to Peter Lemme '80, chairman of the IM council.

According to Lemme, the department promises to offer more such courses if the attendance warrants it.

The intramural program at MIT has traditionally been run almost entirely by students for students. Student referees are an integral part of this structure. It is, however, a part of the structure which has fallen on hard times recently.

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