The time is fast approaching for the selection to this year's Ring class ring. The officers of the Class of 1982 are hopeful that this year's selection will go smoothly. While in recent years, the selection process has been marred by controversy, the rings selected by the suppliers, this year's application has been specifically revised to hopefully avoid confusion.

The finalist is a nine-member panel, usually headed by the class president, whose function is to choose the design of their class ring and to review bids from the suppliers. Supplying an entire class with school rings is considered a major operation by many companies, as total sales are usually over $100,000.

All the commercial strategies of high-powered salesmanship are used. It is common procedure for each company to take the entire committee out for an expensive dinner during which the companies present their sales talk. An even more influential reason for serving on the committee is a ring contract. You are being insulted, although interesting. It is of course they won't believe this. However, if you keep insisting on the committee, the applicant will agree to donate to the class treasury an amount equivalent to the value of the free ring he receives. All applications must be signed and all committee members will be bound to the agreement. "We hope," said Houghton, "that this move will clear up any controversy and allow us to quickly get down to the selection of a ring style and the signing of a contract. If all goes well, we should have the design completed by the end of the semester and a contract drawn up by Spring." "In the end, they will be done without an official ring," said a student who attended the meeting.

By James A. Moore

Grants rings forbidden

Shakespeare house has interesting past

By Rose Marie Damiano

Editor's note: This is the second in a series of articles about the English building surrounding the MIT and Wellesley communities.

In addition to our well-known MIT Fraternity houses, our sister school Wellesley has what could be considered their own phenomenon. On the Wellesley campus in a small grove of trees, one can find a small, half-timbered cottage facing a green field. The building has been the home of the Wellesley Shakespeare Society since 1989, and was modeled after the home of Shakespeare's wife, Anne Hathaway, in Stratford-upon-Avon, England.

The cottage was built in the Tudor style of Elizabethan England, except the basement windows are constructed with leaded glass. Underneath the glass, however, the stained glass windows in the cottage depict the coats of arms of several of Shakespeare's contemporaries. The cottage was once surrounded by a flower garden like Hathaway's, but the garden was removed in the early 1990's due to the lack of proper maintenance. Hathaway's home has a thatched roof, but the roof at the Wellesley house had to be modernized after a fire in 1933. Its foundation is in stone, with walls of white stucco separated by beehive windows.

Inside, the cottage furnishings include several interesting artifacts, including the president's chair and desk, reputed to have been constructed with wood from the Arden Forest around the turn of the century. There is also a beautiful grandfather clock, donated by an alumnus. A blue and white china plate on London was a gift from the English Shakespeare Company, with whom the Wellesley club has close affiliations in its early years. In that same year, the club purchased two sets bearing their nameplate in addition to supplying funds for a cost of arms over the fireplace of the afternoon of the Stratford Theatre in England.

Aside from its close relationship with the English group, in its early years the Wellesley club was much more literary than theatrical. As a result, the cottage in those earlier years was used as the club's main meeting place for discussing literary works and occasionally for small skirts.

The house was the first Wellesley society house built, and the Shakespeare Society dates to April 18, 1877. The Society was founded by the same Mr. Durant who had founded Wellesley College less than two years earlier in 1875.

During the Victorian period, President Patten of Wellesley forbade the Society women to wear men's clothing in their productions — ironic, considering that the members now do so in every production.

(Prizes turn to page 5)
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Looking Back

**Football railroaded in 1901**

Editor's note: With the first game of the season tomorrow, The Tech wishes the Football Club much more luck than they had in 1901, as reported in two articles from October 17, 1901.

Last Friday morning notices announcing a mass meeting to take action on Football interests were posted about the Institute. It was announced that the President was to speak. Further than this the purport of the meeting was not indicated. Previous to this meeting was a mass meeting called by the Institute committee to take action on abolishing the Cane Rush. About 100 people assembled at this meeting to which Dr. Prechott spoke. Having finished his remarks in regard to the abolition of the Cane Rush, the President spoke of the Football at the Institute. The purport of his remarks was that he was not in favor of football at Tech because very few men could afford the time for the game. After further remarks, the President left the hall, and many students, thinking the meeting adjourned, left at the same time, so that when the action was taken in regard to football, there were about half the original number of students present. The Chairman, after a few remarks, asked for an expression from those who wished to have Technologies represented by a football eleven. The resultant vote was 119 against to 117 in favor of no eleven. On the strength of this mere expression of opinion from a small majority, the idea, to the surprise of all, was disbanded. The vote taken meant nothing, since it was the expression of only a part of the student body; and the disbanding of the eleven on such grounds—was probably unconstitutional. It would have been constitutional to have referred the question to the Advisory Council and let the expression of the student vote count for what it was worth. The Council was created for just such purposes, and had the question been referred to them, the result would have been different (Please turn to page 5)
Students at bottom of power structure

The proposed Undergraduate Association Constitution has revived old questions about student government. What should student government do? What kind of powers should it have? Is there really any need for student government?

In many students' eyes, it may seem that there is no real need for student government. After all, the current General Assembly hasn't taken any major action in years.

Administration holds the cards

The General Assembly, even if it were active, doesn't seem to have much power; the administration seems to hold all the cards. Students almost never have any direct power over policy changes, even when these changes directly affect their lives.

This lack of direct power shows us every time the faculty meets to consider a change in educational policy. The faculty has the final say over when drop date is, whether grade distributions should appear on transcripts, and what the definition of grades should be. The only way a student has a say is through begging faculty members to vote over the students.

This lack of final power is also apparent in the current controversy over mandatory commons dining. The mandatory commons proposal could conceivably become Institute policy when the special deans give their approval to the plan.

No group has more real power, but it can't attract any real power until it has people. Breaking the vicious cycle won't be easy, but the student government leaders are trying. Maybe we should want to be more powerful.

General Assembly could be an answer

This situation is clearly unsatisfactory. These issues very directly affect students' lives, and the students should have some vote and maybe even a say in some of the policy. They should certainly have more power than just having student representatives on a faculty committee who can easily be outvoted. The situation isn't hopeless, however. The students do have the power of their voices. This is why we need some kind of representative body. Like the General Assembly, if active, could lobby the administration and perhaps persuade it to give some power to the students.

Unquestionably, the General Assembly is currently caught in a vicious cycle. It doesn't attract people because it currently doesn't have much real power, but it can't attract any power until it has people. Breaking the vicious cycle won't be easy, but the student government leaders are trying, and if they can do it we'll all be better off.

Tom Curtis

USC from Cambridge

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TOM CURTIS

Students at bottom of power structure

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Tom Curtis
Looking Back

Team disbands after 15-0 loss

(Continued from page 3)
would have been reached quietly and without unpleasantness.

We agree with the President that under existing conditions the average Tech man has not the necessary time for football, but we regret that a different means was not taken in bringing about the disbandment. This abrupt withdrawal from contracts for games with other colleges may make it a difficult matter to procure games for another season, even if it is then desired. As to a remedy for the apathy towards Tech football, we would suggest, for one thing, a more moderate admission fee be charged. Let there be, too, only home games, these to be played on Saturdays. We think that a twenty-five cent admission fee would undoubtedly bring out a far larger student support than has existed in the past, while Saturday home-games would not necessitate any conflicts with exercises at the Institute. Moreover, since the players would lose no time playing, they would be more ready and able to try for Science merely beckons. 'I have exercises by playing, they would reach out and touch you, whereas since the players would lose no time playing, they would be more ready and able to try for Science merely beckons.'

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Silent Partner keeps everyone guessing

The Silent Partner, starring Elliott Gould, Christopher Plummer, and Celine Lomez, is a clever, compelling film that tells the story of a hardened bank robber named Harry Reikle. The movie is directed by Daryl Duke and written by Christopher Plummer and Susannah York. The plot is centered around Reikle's attempts to rob a bank, using his intelligence and cunning to outsmart the police and security forces.

Reikle, played by Elliott Gould, is a charismatic and skilled criminal who manages to evade capture time and time again. He is determined to get his hands on the bank's money, but he must also contend with the presence of his boss' mistress, Elaine (Celine Lomez), who complicates his plans. Reikle is a complex character, and Gould's performance is masterful, bringing depth and humanity to the role.

The Silent Partner is a film that is as much about character as it is about the bank robbery. The performances are strong, with Gould, Plummer, and Lomez all delivering standout performances. The movie's plot is full of twists and turns, keeping the audience guessing until the very end.

A few problems with the characterizations unfortunately detract from the overall quality of the film. Nonetheless, the movie succeeds well enough to have captured six Canadian Film Awards, including Best Feature Film. The plot is of a familiar sort, addressing the question of how to rob a bank and get away with it. Yet not only is the audience kept guessing, as stated earlier, but it rarely guesses right.

Elliott Gould stars as Miles Cullen, a bank teller known more for his tropical fish collection than anything else. However, he shrewdly takes advantage of an opportunity to walk home with $50,000 of the bank's money, at the unwitting expense of bank robber Harry Reikle (Christopher Plummer). Reikle, not surprisingly, is none too pleased on discovering that the bank is missing tens of times as much money as he stole and he chases Cullen with a vengeance. But it soon becomes obvious that this quiet bank teller is made of stronger stuff than we were originally led to believe.

The character of Miles Cullen is one of the best roles that Elliott Gould has had in a long time. It seems difficult to believe that someone like Cullen could continue to foil a hardened criminal such as Reikle, yet Gould keeps the character believable.

The film is an off his elaborate schemes with the success of James Bond, seducing Reikle's girlfriend (Celine Lomez) and winning his boss' mistress' (Susannah York) in the process. But Gould always lets just enough fear show through to remind us that he's not superhuman. This type of role is a departure for Gould and he carries it off well.

The character of Reikle is not quite as successful. Director Daryl Duke, masterful in his handling of the rest of the script, seems to have been unsure as to what to do with this character. In giving Reikle a vulnerable side, he has the admirable intention of making the character more multi-faceted than the average movie villain. Yet those moments of vulnerability are so rare that they seem laughably out of place.

Then, to make sure we don't get the wrong idea (after all, Reikle is, first and foremost, a crazed psychopath), these scenes are compensated for by some incredibly violent acts of Reikle's that are depicted a bit more graphically than necessary.

Christopher Plummer does the best he can with the role, and it is equally convincing in showing the violent as well as the vulnerable side of Reikle.

All things considered, The Silent Partner is one of the most skillfully put-together action-flicks of the year. It's hard to understand why the director felt compelled to include a few scenes that belong in Dirty Harry Meets Teenage Nurses in Bombard, but seem disturbingly out of place in a first-class film such as this.

— Al Sanders
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The exterior of Shakespeare House at Wellesley College. (Photo by Linda Custer)

(Continued from page 1)

However, the club is otherwise deeply embedded in tradition, even to the point of holding a party in the house every year on Shakespeare's birthday in late April. The club presently holds two performances a year. Through the years, the club has held many other celebrations including costume parties and receptions in honor of several visitors including the Traveling Shakespeare Company several years ago, a theatre company from England last year, and MIT's own Shakespeare Ensemble.

Despite its literary reputation, the location has been used for more than a Shakespearean center. During World War II, the spot was used by the Red Cross as a location to roll bandages. Today, the cottage is used not only as a theatre and a social center for the Wellesley club, but also as a center for lectures, concerts or slide shows as well.

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Wellesley group follows past
Yankee breakdown a mental problem?

By Robert Lahser

Being a fanastic Red Sox fan or Yankee fan means literally nothing to those of you who have witnessed this baseball season. The question as to team preference is irrelevant at this point. We have seen a dominating World Series winner crumble to a lowly fourth place finish, viewing a subtle aspect of the game as we watched this team sink into the second division.

The Yankees, much improved over last year's championship season, truly blew away this year with phenomenal emphasis. Such a poor show epitomizes this overlooked and relativey subtle aspect of the game -- baseball as a mental activity.

Powerpacked with pitchers like Tommy John and Luis Tiant this year, the Yankees appeared to be pennant winners once again. Even Richard Sox fans seemed pessimistic. How could such a failure occur? The answer lies in the psychological makeup of the player, or, more collectively, the team. Seldom does one find more of a mental power struggle than a pitcher going one-on-one with a dangerous hitter. Should the pitcher's psyche diminish one iota, his physical attributes diehard Sox fans seemed pessimistic. How could such a failure occur? The answer lies in the psychological makeup of the player, or, more collectively, the team. Seldom does one find more of a mental power struggle than a pitcher going one-on-one with a dangerous hitter. Should the pitcher's psyche diminish one iota, his physical attributes diehard Sox fans seemed pessimistic. How could such a failure occur? The answer lies in the psychological makeup of the player, or, more collectively, the team. Seldom does one find more of a mental power struggle than a pitcher going one-on-one with a dangerous hitter. Should the pitcher's psyche diminish one iota, his physical attributes diehard Sox fans seemed pessimistic. How could such a failure occur? The answer lies in the psychological makeup of the player, or, more collectively, the team. Seldom does one find more of a mental power struggle than a pitcher going one-on-one with a dangerous hitter. Should the pitcher's psyche diminish one iota, his physical attributes...