

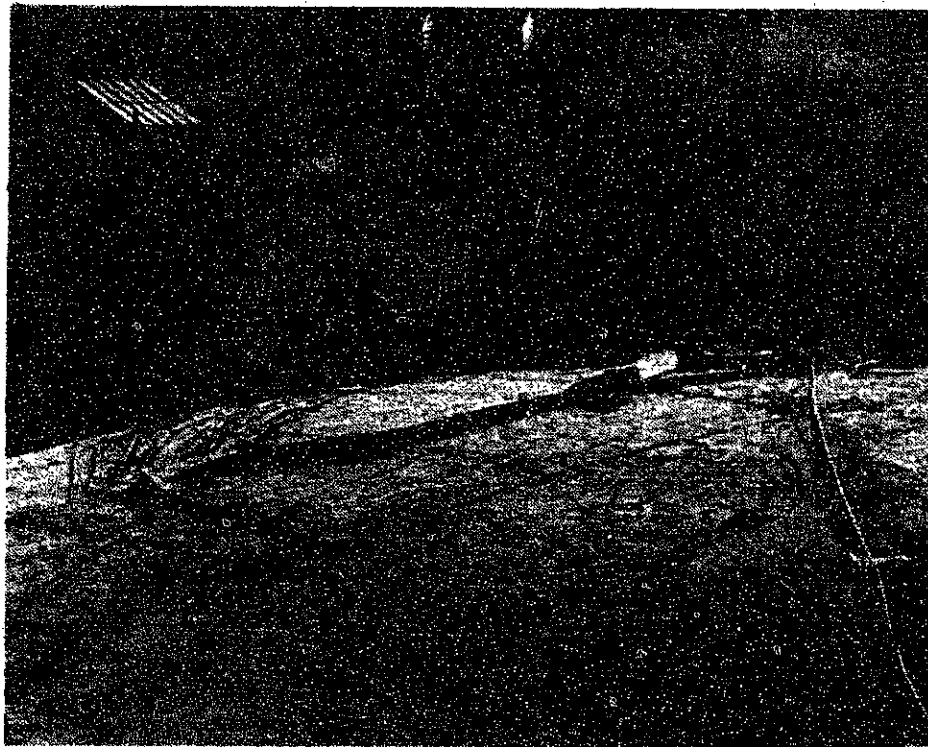
Continuous
News Service
Since 1881

The Tech

MIT
Cambridge
Massachusetts

Volume 99, Number 54

Tuesday, December 11, 1979



Workmen removing the top three layers of the roof of Kresge Auditorium. (Photo by Eric Sklar)

Kresge to open Sept. as repairs continue

By Stuart Canton

Going past the student center, one can't help but notice the workmen atop the infamous Kresge shell — but when will Kresge open again?

Director of the Kresge operation, Bill Dickson from MIT Physical Plant, says that the reconstruction of Kresge is going well. Currently the builders are stripping the lead off the dome, while trying to salvage the remainder of the material.

In order to get to the layer of lead, the constructors needed to strip several top layers. A layer of membrane, insulation, another layer of membrane, and a layer of concrete were removed before the lead was accessible. The lead must be taken off in such a way as to form a concentric circle around the top of the shell. Dickson says that lead should be off by the end of this month.

Once the lead is removed, the major repairs can begin. First, the whole shell will be made waterproof, so there will be no additional rotting during the winter. Once that is accomplished, the repairs to structural members will begin, followed by the roofing operation. Because of the nature of the roof and the repairs, all major repairs must start from the bottom and work their way up.

The roofing repairs consist of an assembly of water-proofing membranes with "sleepers," specially treated wood frames, which will be especially resistant to the weather. On top of the sleepers will be a layer of styrofoam insulation, which was not in the original design.

The next step will be to add a layer of marine (waterproof)

plywood, which will be covered with building paper. Finally, the whole shell will be blanketed in a standing copper seam roof.

Contrary to previous estimates, Kresge will not open before September, 1980. There are several reasons for the delay, the chief one being winter. Much reconstruction will have to be curtailed or even halted during the cold weather. In addition, additional measures have to be taken to prevent further damage to the structure by the cold and ice.

Physical Plant has not yet decided whether to attempt the repairs to concrete during the winter months, or to wait until March. If the repairs are done in the winter, then the section of the roof being worked on will have to be completely enclosed so that the cold will not interfere with the repairs.

It is evident that if the repairs proceed through the winter there will be less progress during those months than normal for fair weather work. Dickson, however, feels that it would be better to start the repairs during the winter even under adverse conditions, because, no matter what provisions are taken, there is no way that the structural roof rebuilding could be started until the spring.

The Physical Plant is hoping that these repairs to Kresge will be permanent. In addition, the workers have been monitoring the movement of the shell throughout the unloading process. It was thought that when the heavy lead and concrete was removed the center of the shell would rise. Fortunately, though, no rising has been noticed, and the frame seems to be in good shape.

Student loan fees debated

By Erik Sherman

Two factions of state financial aid administrators are at odds over the size of Massachusetts student loan fees, money charged to students to help offset the operational expenses of Guaranteed Student Loan Program (GSLP).

These fees, which will be reduced from one-percent of each loan to three-quarter percent, are being labeled as too large by the Massachusetts Association of Financial Administrators (MAFA), a group of schools' financial aid officers. They feel one-quarter percent would be sufficient.

The Massachusetts Higher Educational Assistance Corporation (MHEAC), a private, non-profit firm that controls that state GSLP, has asserted the fees as necessary to the operation of the program.

Financial information provided by two members of MAFA who also serve on the MHEAC board of directors has caused MAFA to

question whether MHEAC needs as much income as the fees provide. They feel that the availability of federal operating funds and a recent increase in the amount of federal reinsurance of such loans has reduced the expenses of MHEAC.

"We have told them that all they need is one-quarter percent. We claim that they don't need more than that; they can't justify more than that," said J. Samuel Jones, MIT's Associate Director of Student Financial Aid and member of MAFA.

Jones referred to MHEAC as a "fat cat operation" and termed the operating budget "quite indulgent" though he did concede they have "done good things and perform a useful function."

Another MAFA member, Harvard financial aid officer R. Jerrold Gobson, expressed a desire for "budgetary constraints" on MHEAC.

Both Gobson and Jones felt that MHEAC is controlled by banking interests and is not

responsive to the needs of students.

Hekge Holst, president of MHEAC, argued that 100 percent reinsurance is unrealistic. This is valid only when the default rate is under five percent. Between five and nine percent, the federal guarantee is 90 percent. Over nine percent default, the guarantee is 80 percent. Holst cites the present default rate as 4.7 percent.

He also cited "ungodly delays" in federal reimbursements and "inadequate [federal] appropriations" for operating budgets as two reasons for three-quarters percent fees.

But MAFA does not "think [the arguments] hold water." Gibson commented, "[Holst] began with a premise of his own choosing and logic of his own design. We reject his argument out of hand."

Further, the default rate is a cumulative process that is zeroed every December, according to Gibson. It is unlikely that the

(Please turn to page 8)

Hostile climate plagues library

By James Moore

"Have you noticed that instead of a heating system, we've got a cooling system, or better yet, a freezing system?"

"Isn't it ridiculous to find the place too warm all day and extremely cold all night?"

"As usual the library is at some indecent temperature. In the winter it's too cold, in the spring, too hot. What use is the place if you can't study here?"

"During the recent warm spell, it was 88 degrees in this place. Two weeks before that, when it snowed, the temperature was below 69."

The first three statements were picked at random from the complaints book at the front desk of the Student Center Library. A year's worth of complaints are listed there and the majority read in a similar vein. The fourth statement is a quote made last week by a habitual library user. Despite at least a year's worth of complaints, the Student Center Library is still seemingly plagued with problems in maintaining a reasonable comfort level. As one person put it, quite bluntly, "Twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year, this place is miserable."

The head of the Student Center Library, Sylvia McDowell, refused to comment on the issue. Each written complaint had received a typewritten explanation of measures taken by the library staff. Usually this involved informing Physical Plant of the malfunctioning Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) system.

Carl Hagge, Chief Engineer of the Institute, insisted that every complaint that got through to his office was promptly and thoroughly investigated.

Sensors are placed in the warmest and coolest parts of the library and no heating or cooling devices are used as long as the temperature remains between 65 and 78 degrees, the Federal standards for public buildings. Two large fans circulate air throughout

the rooms for varying lengths of time, regularly on the hour. The entire system is run directly by computers located in the Institute Work Control Center.

According to Hagge, the Library was programmed into the computers specifically to avoid radical fluctuations in the temperature. "We realized that people would be using the facility 24 hours a day, and we wanted to ensure that a constant comfort level was maintained. We especially hoped to smooth out any extremes that might occur during spring and autumn 'transition' periods, when it can get extremely cold at night, and extremely warm during the day."

While the operation of the computer program thus far has been flawless, Hagge does admit that there have been mechanical difficulties within the library

HVAC system. "The circulation fans have a history of malfunctioning," he said, "and that can make things extremely uncomfortable, especially at night during the winter. Normally we try to recirculate the air that is already in the library once an hour, for 15 to 30 minutes every hour. Sometimes, however, the fans replace the heated air with fresh air from outdoors. On a winter night when it's only 75 degrees inside, fifteen minutes of steady 10 degree drafts can make things pretty unpleasant." Although this was a problem discovered by maintenance crews several times over the course of last winter, Hagge still isn't sure if the situation has been rectified. "Spring came around and it wasn't a problem anymore."

In dealing with complaints

(Please turn to page 8)



Transparent Horizons was redecorated last weekend, in the spirit of the holiday season. (Photo by Kevin Osborn)

inside

Faculty Chairman Sheila Widnall talks about possible academic policy improvements. **Page 3.**

What should the new dormitory be called? **Page 4.**

The women's basketball team squeaked by Regis College 46-43 last week, but guard Susan Stulz may be out for the season. **Page 12.**

news roundup

World

Hostages to face spy charges — The current Iranian foreign minister, Sadegh Ghotbzadeh, told reporters yesterday that American hostages would appear before an "international tribunal" to face spy charges. In a countermove, President Carter directed newly appointed Attorney General Benjamin Civiletti to the Hague (Netherlands) to contest Iranian charges before the International Court of Justice.

Rhodesia launches raids — Rhodesian Air Force warplanes attacked guerilla bases of the "Patriotic Front," located in neighboring Zambia and Mozambique. Military reports stated that last Sunday's raids were launched after intelligence reports of wide-spread guerilla border infiltration.

Nation

Carter approval rate up — A *Newsweek* poll released yesterday indicated that public approval of President Carter has jumped from 3 percent to 6 percent in the five weeks since the Iranian crisis began.

Republican elected in Louisiana — The first Republican in over a century to be elected as Governor of Louisiana is David C. Treen, formerly a Louisiana state representative. His narrow margin of victory on Saturday was 11,400 votes.

— Aaron Rapoport and Jay Glass

Weather

Today should be sunny and mild, with a high in the mid-50's. Clouds will begin moving in tonight, with increasing winds and a low around thirty-five degrees. Tomorrow should be colder, with scattered showers and a high in the 40's. Winds will be from the southwest at 10-15 mph, gusting higher at random intervals.

notes

Announcements

The MIT Police are requesting assistance relative to a missing **TV Scan Converter**. Anyone having information concerning the whereabouts of this instrument please call 253-1212.

Activities

Interactive Visual Telecommunications will create a public event called "TV-TO-TV." On Dec. 14 from noon until 3pm, Lobby 7, the West Lounge of the Student Center, and the experimental Studio in Bldg. 9 will be connected. The Lobby 7 and the Student Center sites will be equipped

with TV cameras and monitors to enable simultaneous visual exchange. The MIT Community is invited to come and participate in various forms of communication. Participants are encouraged to bring and use visual information related to their own personal, cultural, or environmental interest. Other instant information media such as Polaroid, tape recorder, radios, etc. are also suggested. The entire event will be videotaped on two simultaneous channels to be shown on the MIT Cable TV at a date to be announced. Aldo Tambellini, Center for Advanced Visual Studies Fellow and coordinator for the workshop, may be called at x3-6849 for more info.



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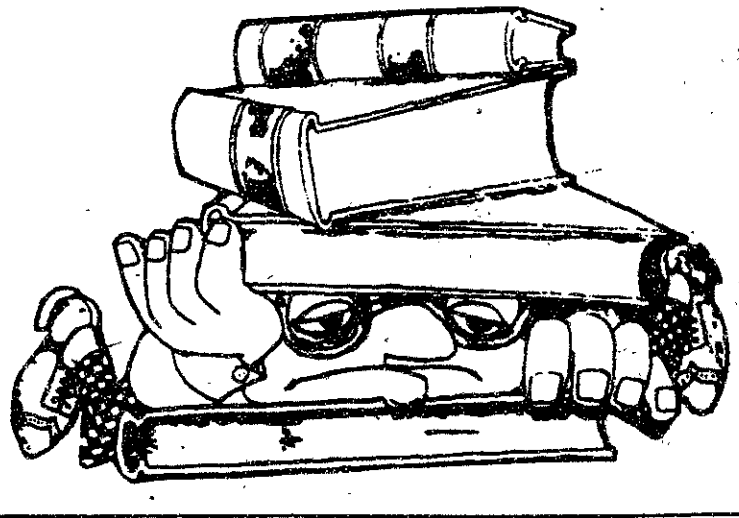
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Sheila Widnall, Faculty Chairman. (Photo by Linda Custer)

Widnall comments on academics

By Rose Marie Damiano

One of the many important positions within the MIT Administration is that of Faculty Chairman. Last spring Professor of Aeronautics and Astronautics Sheila Widnall was appointed as the New Faculty Chairman, replacing Professor of Physics Robert Hulsizer. Widnall is the first woman ever to hold the position of faculty chairman.

The impression received, from Widnall, is one of a woman who knows the issues and has many ideas to contribute. Widnall has held leadership positions previously as a full time professor and as a member of the faculty council. Widnall has been affiliated with the Institute since 1956 when she began as a freshman.

The position of Faculty Chairman lasts one to two years. When the time came last spring to elect a new chairman, a nominating committee created a list of names of possible candidates, who have been active on a number of faculty committees. These candidates were later interviewed, and Widnall was chosen.

Widnall's major responsibilities include chairing the Committee on Educational Policy (which discusses Institute requirements and curriculum) and representing the Faculty on the Academic Council. The Academic Council meets once a week and discusses items such as tenure and promotion. Widnall will be in contact most with the President, the Chancellor, Provost, the Deans and members of the faculty Committee.

She had some apprehensions of taking this new position. "I've had to give up teaching completely, and I miss classroom teaching."

"The job of Faculty Chairman is difficult to describe. The real work of the Faculty Chairman comes through the committee on Educational Policy," she explained. "Education Policy, and the organization of policy in general, changes slowly. For example, 8.01 will always remain an

Institute requirement, however, its content can change.

When the subject of MIT in the '60's was brought up, Widnall commented, "In the 60's the issues were much more complex. These times are relatively quiet. I remember at that time when there were two years when finals were cancelled due to external circumstances."

Widnall is concerned with a wide range of issues where she would like to see improvement. "I am now given a special opportunity to work on issues affecting minority students at both the graduate and undergraduate

levels." Other topics that will eventually be discussed include reviewing the Experimental Study Group and trying to locate a new home for it, and a study of MIT's advising system, which now differs from department to department. This would be taken up with the Committee for Student Affairs. Other issues include computers in undergraduate education, changes in degree programs, and a study by the Admission Committee that concerns the recruitment of more women and focuses on the admission requirements for women set by the faculty.

Jailed children discussed

By Kimberley Elcess

"I haven't the foggiest idea what's inside any child," stated Dr. Thomas J. Coddle at the beginning of his lecture on "What's Happening Inside American's Children" as a part of the Cambridge Forum's "Problems and Prospects" series.

The Cambridge Forum is a lecture series given every Wednesday night at 8pm at 3 Church St. in Harvard Square. The First Parish in Cambridge, the Lowell Institute, the MIT Chaplains, and the United Ministry at Harvard and Radcliffe co-sponsor the Forum.

Coddle has conducted interviews with children and their families during the past several years. His interviewing techniques are a bit unorthodox. He puts away notepad and pencil, tape recorder, and other interview paraphernalia and becomes "just friends" with the interviewees.

The cases Coddle cited Wednesday night dealt with children who have had situations forced on them which tend to nullify their futures. The first was the story of "Ollie Taylor," a black child who was "tracked into a slow class in school based on his I.Q. score. Though he used to feel that he was "all right," years in the "dummy" class have obliterated his self-esteem. What's wrong, according to Cod-

dle, was that Ollie was placed in that class without even having taken an I.Q. test.

This is not an isolated case. In Wisconsin alone over 100,000 cases of I.Q.-based tracking were discovered to be done without proper testing.

"How can they get away with that?" asked one member of the audience.

"One can get around any law one wants," answered Coddle.

Another case dealt with Fer-nald Hoover, a juvenile placed in an adult jail after three appearances in court for breaking and entering and carrying an (unloaded) gun. The real reason for his commitment to prison was not, however, these crimes, but that he fought violently with his sick mother.

Coddle has written a book entitled *Children in Jail* which deals with the stories of children incarcerated in adult prisons. Coddle found that it is less expensive to send a child to Harvard, Yale, and Princeton concurrently and to furnish him with the use of a Lear jet and a pilot than to maintain him in a Federal prison.

When asked by audience participants, "What can we do about these conditions?" Coddle replied that the best way to attack was to select a single point, gather a group of similarly interested citizens, and apply pressure.

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opinion

Steven Solnick

Random thoughts on dorms and such

It's the Christmas — er, Holiday — season and we hear a lot around this time of the year about mailing our cards early. Well, if you thought the US Postal Service was bad, listen to this.

A friend of mine in Connecticut sent me a letter some time ago. Since I am perpetually out of touch with my out-of-state friends, she was not aware that staying in the same dorm for four years was in vogue up here. Consequently, she addressed the letter to "Steven Solnick, c/o MIT (Class of 81), Cambridge, Mass."

Well, I finally got that letter. Through Interdepartmental mail. Thirty-four days after it was mailed. Opened.

Your guess is as good as mine.

* * * *

Actually, it appears it may no longer really be in vogue to remain in the same dorm for four years. Dormcon is in the final stages of drafting a plan to facilitate more inter-dormitory switching. According to Dean for Housing Robert Sherwood, the task of drafting such a system was given to Dormcon to allow that body to be "more involved in policy decisions."

Development of the scheme to reset room priorities was prompted by the assertion of the Dining Committee that the new compulsory Commons plan would require more flexibility for upperclassmen who wish to switch dormitories. According to Sherwood, though, the new room priority plan would be considered even if the new Dining proposal is not implemented.

The new room assignments policy would evidently take effect in the Spring.

* * * *

Finally, construction of the new dormitory should begin sometime this spring. There are a number of things to be worked out about this building, what with all that parking to reallocate, but it seems to me that the administration is neglecting the most important problem of them all.

We still don't know what to call the damn thing.

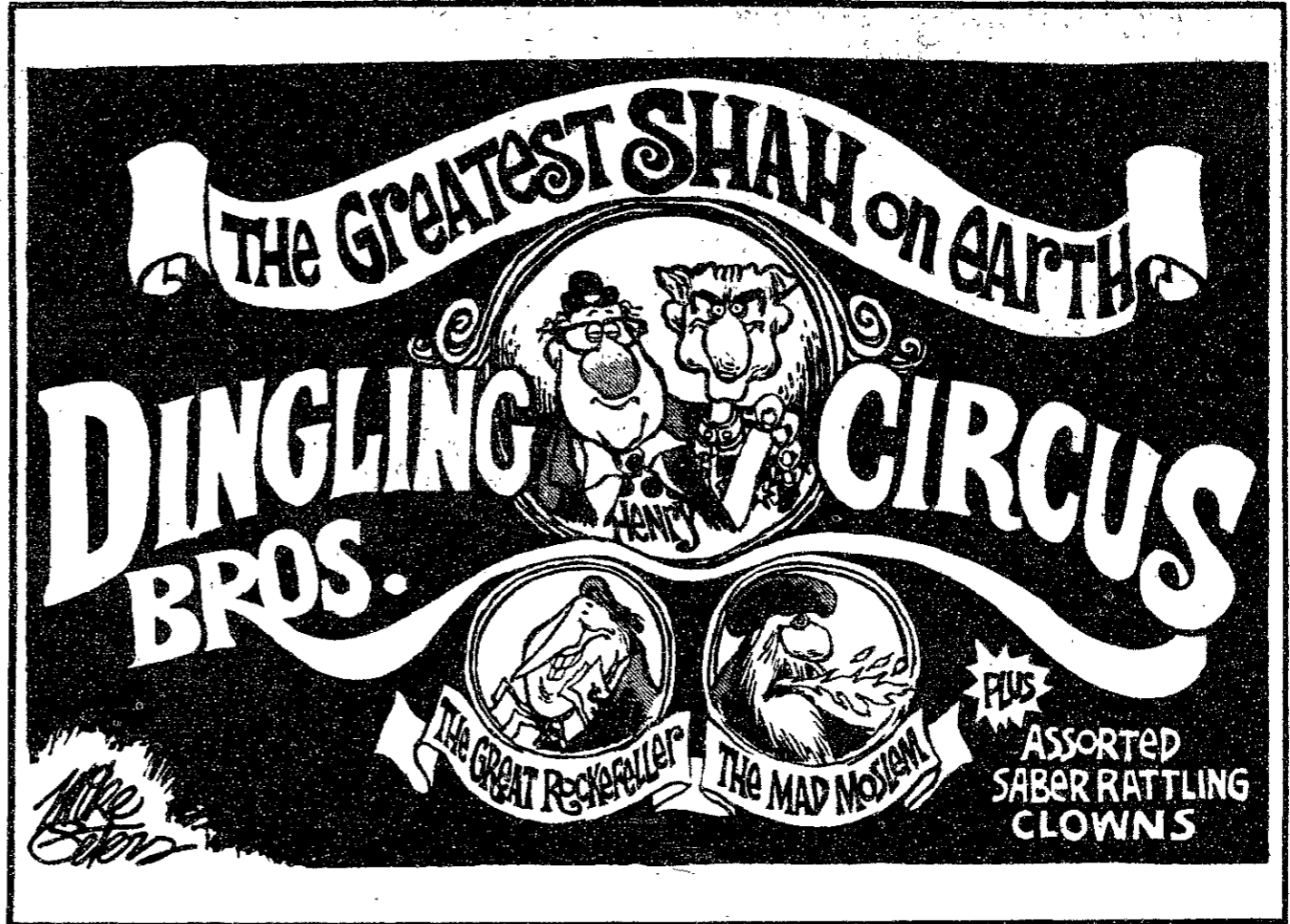
Here we are, six months after the grant to allow construction was received, and we still don't have a name for that building. Even *Tech Talk* has started calling it Next House. Now really folks, I mean Next House is a cute name and all that, but it really does set a bad precedent. What will we call the dorm after that, Dorm After That? Or Still Another House? Or Here We Go Again House?

Enough of this silliness. Something really has to be done so all the Institute mapmakers can get cracking. So, even though it's a bit premature (they could always name the dorm after another donor, if one should come along), I'm going to propose here and now a new IAP activity: a name the new dorm contest.

I'm really serious about this now. Send your ideas to me at *The Tech* and we'll pass the best suggestions along to the administration. To give you a start, here are some of the best ones I've heard so far: Anonymous House, Maxwell's House, Out House, In House (suggested by the administration as a counterproposal to Out House) and — the one to beat — West Side Stories.

* * * *

A parting thought. Maybe if we spent a bit less time worrying about what we called things, be they dormitories or Holiday Parties or Deans, we would have more energy to devote to what goes into them. Have a good vacation.



Arthur Hu

Christmas complaints are not valid

I was quite disturbed when, at the showing of an LSC movie, someone had the gall to hiss at a preview of a Walt Disney cartoon "The Little One" when it was mentioned that it was a Christmas tale based loosely on the nativity. Since when is Walt Disney worth that kind of disrespect? While it is one's right to be offended by anything he wishes, it doesn't make it any more right than for me to be intolerant of Jews or atheists, and take offense to Hanukkah, or non-celebration of Christians. It is one thing to show tolerance, and respect for other's beliefs and customs, and quite another to take offense to them, and censure the acts of others.

Most who complain about Christmas seem to take offense not to anything about Christmas itself, but to the sole point that it is at least partly Christian in origin, which would imply that these people take offense to Christianity in any manifestation. Can their attitude towards Christianity be so grotesque that a Christmas tree is compared to the symbols of Nazism, the KKK, and various religious fanatics?

And if so, can there be a place in this community for such misunderstandings and prejudices? Some seem to hold that it is both immoral, and unconstitutional, to put up Christmas decorations in public. Can this seriously be argued when such public decorations are common not only all

over Boston, but all over the United States, and for that matter, the entire western world? If these people are right, there will be a lot of decorations to take down.

If some find Christmas to be offensive and isolating, it is not the fault of Christmas. Many non-Christian Americans, including Jews, Moslems, Hindus, and native Americans, have found

something universal in Christmas' spirit of love, joy, and brotherhood. Certainly these things cannot be against one's religion. Indeed, many of Christmas' strongest supporters are those with no religious beliefs at all. Those who choose to look upon Christmas as a thing of evil have missed the entire point, and are doing both themselves and the community a great disservice.

feedback

Moonie letter unworthy of print

To the editor:

Once again, *The Tech* has succumbed to the use of "feedback" as a forum for religious prostitution. Please refer to Page 4 of the November 30th edition of *The Tech*. Here is a quote from J. Andrew Combs. "After many years of leading a self-centered life..." The ensuing sentence attempts to substantiate the questionable fact that his life is no longer self-centered. It is interesting to note that while contending the aforementioned, J. Andrew Combs chose the following personal pronouns for his letter: "I", "my", "me", and "myself" a total of 26 times. The remaining contents of the letter, which can aptly be referred to as absurd gobbledegook, contains

the following quote: "... even if the entire population of the world rose up and said not to follow Reverend Moon..." It is clearly evident that if the whole world cannot alter J. Andrew Combs' clouded perception, it is truly his actions that define self-centeredness.

J. Andrew Combs has had first hand "personal experience" with Reverend Moon and the Unification Church. Will anyone who has actually met Reverend Moon, in person, please indicate so by writing to *The Tech*?

Finally, J. Andrew Combs G, if you are content with being what many would call a loser, fine, but please stop advertising as if you are trying to sell a product.

Steven J. Silberberg '83

The Tech

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Holiday fare: Hansel & MIT Symphony

Magical! That, in a word, is Sarah Caldwell's Opera Company of Boston production of Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel*.

David Sharir's settings and costumes establish the extraordinary from the start; in the first scene, in Hansel and Gretel's home, the furniture takes on mammoth proportions to scale the two singers down to child-size. In the forest while they sleep, beautiful angels descend from heaven; the witch's gingerbread house is irresistible as is the witch herself, resplendent in sci-fi demonic attire.

The witch, sung by Rosalind Elias is, in fact, most obviously the star of the cast. Her exaggerated positioning is hysterical, movement coordinated to produce maximum laughs. Her cackle after singing of Gretel: "she's so tender, plump and sweet, just the thing I like to eat," is glorious. Ms. Elias' voice took on tones of the sinister as it was strongly and clearly projected at the audience. A really super wicked witch.

Hansel and Gretel were sung by D'Anna Fortunato and Leigh Munro respectively. It is a shame that they appeared to be overwhelmed by the orchestra for so much of the time, for it was difficult to catch their words. Some pretty singing, nonetheless, particularly from Leigh Munro. Adelle Nicholson, Ronald Hedlund and Virginia Boomer competently, if not notably, complete the cast.

The orchestra, under Sarah Caldwell, was highly responsive to the moods of the action: the unease, magic or joy of the moment could be directly felt. The whole was amusingly produced, though I am not used to the audience being 'rehearsed' after the interval to take on the parts of the 'Gingerbread Children Chorus'. "If you're going to be in the opera, you're going to have to sing a lot louder than that" we were told, though with a little more practice our pedagogue admitted that: "You're all becoming very talented operatic stars." In the event, the actual audience participation bit came off surprisingly well, and the children present raced off onto the stage afterwards to gobble up the witch, herself finally transformed into yummy gingerbread. It's all fun, even if it's not ex-

actly great opera. Performances remain tomorrow, Friday and Saturday.

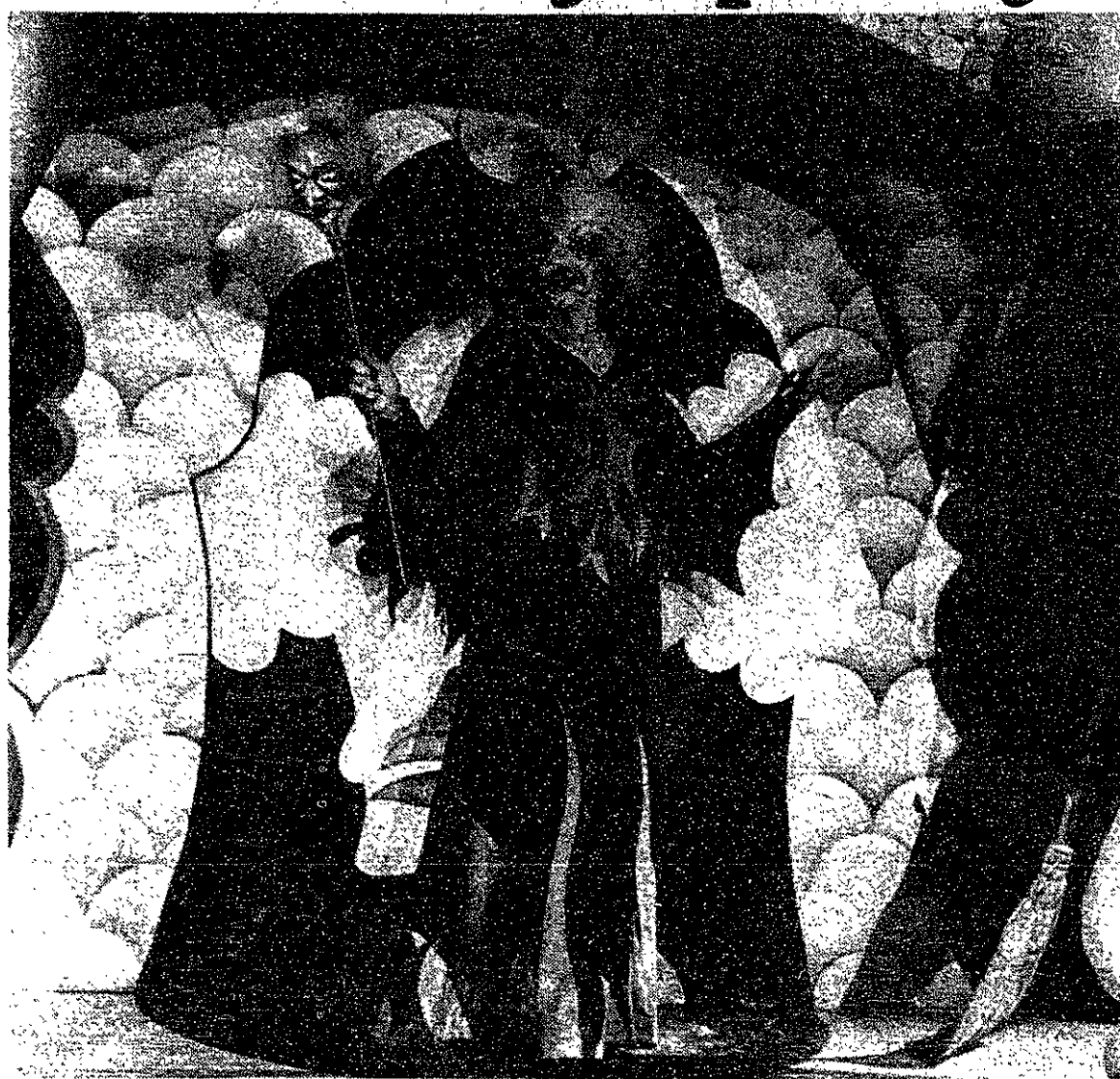
* * * *

"Brian would like to be a professional musician, but he's going to be a mechanical engineer instead" — conversation overheard.

As if my sins against music in missing the BSO concert last week were not enough, this week I declined a generous invitation from their charming press officer to hear Itzhak Perlman play the Beethoven violin concerto. I already had a date with the MIT Symphony, I said; there was doubtless little further evidence required that I was mentally deranged. What devotion to duty, I told myself, and in the colonies as well!

But what a refreshing surprise the concert at MIT turned out to be. The first piece, Sibelius' *The Swan of Tuonela* was also the best. The beautiful, floating oboe sound of Sandra Ayres dying off into the distance as the violins came in, the tremulous, mysterious sound of the strings as if in half-reverie, half gliding towards a misty Scandanavian lake. The orchestra played as one instrument, and created an unworldly and beautiful effect. Howard Hanson's Piano Concerto is an interesting work, combining elements of the lyrical and the thrustful. But one got the impression that forceful as Eugene List was, the lyricism was lacking. At times the orchestra appeared to be playing independently from him; one could not help but observe that there appeared to be little communication between conductor David Epstein and the soloist.

There were some fine passages in the rendition of Schumann's First Symphony, especially from the strings who established a taughness that demanded the listener's attention. Some measure was played a little heavily, however, and in the Scherzo there seemed to be some problems of coordination. It was disappointing that the expressive drive of the Sibelius did not show up here; otherwise this would have been a magnificent performance. But to avoid anyone misinterpreting my comments, I



Rosalind Elias as the witch.

should note that I am evaluating the MIT Symphony by the highest professional standards; for, when I heard the Sibelius, I realised that it would be an insult to use any other yardstick. I look forward to enjoying their future programs.

* * * *

Small and delightful concerts frequently occur in the MIT Chapel. One such happened last Thursday, performed by members of the Early Music Society. The *Lamento d'Arianna* by Monteverdi was performed with a fine sense of the musical performance manners of the time. The singers were well-disciplined and pure-toned, although they did stray from harmony for

some brief moments. Following this, Deborah Harrington sang *Quel Squardo Sdegno Setto* from Monteverdi's *Scherzi Musicali*. Ms. Harrington has a full and expressive voice; her solo flowed along prettily, and gave much pleasure, although some high notes were not as pure as they might have been.

A different set of singers came on for the final part, English madrigals from the turn of the 16th century. Amusing they certainly were, though lack of togetherness spoiled the harmony somewhat. The concert as a whole was a pleasant diversion; even a brutal problem-set looked less sordid afterwards.

— Jonathan Richmond

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Harlequin Theatre Co.'s *Seagull* a flop

The Seagull, written by Anton P. Chekhov; directed by Steve Grechie. Starring Wendy Almeda, Michael Mesrobian, Morris Hyman, Ted Zalemki, Ronni Marshak, Debe Logue, John Sichel, Joel Hersh, Cynthia Schwell; now playing at Nucleo Eclettico.

The mangled papier mache seagull that makes its appearance in The Harlequin Theater Company's production of Anton Chekhov's *The Seagull* is an apt metaphor for the rest of the production. The poor bird lay sadly in the middle of the stage, forced by some cruel trick of fate to make this inauspicious debut. The company severely overextended their technical and artistic capabilities; the result is a convoluted, ineffective, ludicrous production.

Inadequate performance space imposed a severe limitation. The stage, perhaps ten feet by ten feet by twenty feet appeared to

be even more cramped than it actually was because of poor set design. Bob Craigie's set showed a clear lack of practicality or imagination. The background consisted of an uninteresting blend of grey on grey while the rest of the stage was cluttered with an array of dried weeds arranged in a manner suggestive of *Better Homes and Gardens* "Guide to Holiday Centerpieces."

The stage lacked a curtain; all scene breaks were suggested by light cues. The lights were dimmed so many times that the play was transformed from a full-length production into sets of short vignettes that seemed to bear no relation to each other.

The Seagull, as written by Chekhov, did have a plot. Unfortunately, this was not the case with this particular production. The director changed the order and delivery of lines so often that it was impossible to follow the play. Perhaps Mr. Grechie did not have faith in the ability of his audience to notice important lines. Several times dur-

ing the play he had actors repeat important lines directly to the audience after they had just delivered the lines to other characters onstage. This did nothing to clarify the play; aside from disrupting the play's natural flow, it made the viewer feel that he was at a revival meeting. At one point, Mr. Grechie chose to have all nine actors running across the tiny stage yelling six syllable Russian names and unintentionally colliding with each other as if they were the Keystone cops. This decision helped emphasize the confusion and lack of worthwhile direction the play exhibited.

The quality of acting was bad, distinguished by the frequency and blatancy of mistakes. Wendy Almeda, as Irena and Morris Hyman, as Trigorin were clearly overwhelmed by their roles. They seemed to have no idea as to how to approach them. Michael Mesrobian gave a bland performance as Konstantin; his only memorable moment occurred just before

the intermission. In a very intense scene Konstantin attempts to shoot himself. This Mr. Mesrobian finally managed to do, after first getting his finger caught in his gun and uttering a loud "Ouch!" Ted Zalemki, as Alyia, and Ronni Marshak as Polena, could have made the perfect couple — if their task had been to portray Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus. Mr. Zalemki delivered his lines in an unnatural cadence, punctuating them all too frequently with ho-ho-ho's. The only passable performances were given by Cynthia Schwell and Joel Hersh.

The Harlequin Theater Company failed at trying to present Chekhov's play as a tragic masterpiece; their production is at best a comic travesty. Chekhov's script contains the line: "What we need are new art forms." That may be so, but it is apparent that this production is not representative of new art forms at all but rather that old favorite — bad theater.

— Jerri-Lynn Scofield

From sublime to sleazy - 10 cc, Root Boy



Zoom, Root Boy Slim and the Sex Change Band with the Rootettes on A & M Records SP006

Yes, fans, gross still works. After a year or so of legal hassles, label changes and the like, Root Boy Slim and the Sex Change Band featuring the Rootettes have released their second album, *Zoom*. Root Boy, whose real name is Foster MacKenzie, has gone from being a local celebrity in the Washington, D. C. area to a role as some sort of lumbering embodiment of the Seventies.

MacKenzie and the Sex Change band carved a niche for themselves in Washington by performing such minor classics as "Boogie 'Til You Puke" and "Christmas at K-Mart" for bargoers all over the area. Discovered by former Steely Dan producer Gary Katz, Root Boy and the Band were originally signed to Warner Bros.

Their first album was a collection of songs that had become standards in the D.C. area. After a few playings, the album wore itself out. Root Boy's drug-dazed ramblings were amusing once or twice but after that they became boring really quickly.

Zoom picks up exactly where the first album left off. The lyrics all deal with drugs in unimaginable quantities, peep shows, sleazy motels and pimps. If you're a real adolescent the mere mention of all this sleaze may make you all hot and bothered but if you've moved on from there you'll probably just be bored.

This is not to say that Root Boy Slim and the Sex Change band featuring the Rootettes don't have any redeeming social value. That's not true at all. The band's live act is something that has to be seen to be believed. While the Sex Changers barrel along in true lounge lizard, the-band-wore-blue-shirts fashion, Root and the Rootettes

perform any number of unspeakables.

The nicest thing I can say about *Zoom* is that it was recorded at Silver Spring, Md.'s Track Recorders. It's nice to see that when a hometown boy makes good he doesn't forget his roots.

Forget this album. Go see Root Boy at the Paradise December 20th. . . . The show is worth it. The album isn't.

— Claudia Perry



Greatest Hits 1972-1978 10cc on Polydor Records, PD-1-6244.

Just in time for the holiday season, the greatest hits rampage has started. As usual, all sorts of groups that you weren't aware

were great or had hits manage to fill an album with swill. 10cc has done it too, but in a more satisfying way.

The album covers most of the band's career, omitting any work from the *How Dare You* album. This isn't surprising, as the band split and reformed after this one was released. Most of the other albums are represented by what Polydor considers the band's greatest work.

Fans of the band will miss the inclusion of "Waterfall." Originally turned down by the Beatles' Apple Records, the song resulted in 10cc being signed to UK Records by one Jonathan King. Thus began the band's seven album march that ended three record labels later.

There are some minor classics here. "Donna," the band's combination girl-group telephone song, is a falsetto romp that left many of the band's first critics in doubt as to the band's sex. "Rubber Bullets" is a seven-minute ramble about a prison dance that becomes a riot. An intervening chaplain begs the prisoners to cool it, they don't, and the warden orders the rubber bullets. This song went Number One in Idaho or some place equally remote. It's good that it's revived here as 10cc's first album is no longer in print.

Also unavailable is *The Original Soundtrack*, the album that surrounds "I'm (Please turn to page 7)

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10cc's Greatest Hits: a gift worth giving

(Continued from page 6)
 Not in Love." That and "Life is a Minestrone" are present on this album. Both are good examples of middle 10cc. It's rumored that "I'm Not in Love" contains 256 vocal overdubs. Count'em if you dare.

From the *Deceptive Bends* album comes "The Things We Do for Love." This song finds the band the frothiest they've ever been. Between *How Dare You* and this album, band members Lol Creme and Kevin Godley left to promote the Gizmo, a device that makes neat things possible with guitars. They also didn't like what they later referred to as 10cc's "hit

factory" atmosphere. Graham Gouldman and Eric Stewart produced "Things," which is British pop perfection.

From *How Dare You*, "I'm Mandy, Fly Me" and "Art for Art's Sake" don't begin to show the crack that was growing in the band. Both are really pop, whereas songs like "Don't Hang Up" or "Iceberg" could have been included to show the direction that Creme and Godley were heading in.

The best examples of what 10cc could do when they were "on" are culled from the band's second album, *Sheet Music*. "Silly Love" and "The Wall Street Shuffle" are

two crisp, hook-riddled tunes that can fry a car radio at ten paces with their unbridled energy. At this point, *Sheet Music's* printing status is questionable; so if you want these two gems, this is the only game in town.

For people who don't know 10cc and want to, this album is a must. For those of us who know the band's work, it's a great gift. After all, it is no crime to support a good, quirky, eclectic British band in these days of bad, mundane, derivative, boring American ones.

— Claudia Perry

on the town

Movies

Rooster Cogburn, the MidNite Movie, Saturday, December 15, second floor of the Student Center.

This Weekend's LSC lineup:

Buck Rodgers in the 25th Century, Fri. 7 & 9:30, 26-100.

The Cheerleaders (rated X), Sat., 7 & 9:30, 26-100.

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Art

The Narrative Impulse: Susan Sidlauskas, Assistant Curator of

the Committee on the Visual Arts, will give an informal talk on the current Hayden Gallery exhibition on Wed., Dec 12 at noon and again at 6pm. The talk will explore the aspects of "storytelling" which run through the work of the four artists featured: Michael Mazur (guest curator), Robert Birmelin, Irving Petlin and Mary Frank, with attention to the personal and professional relationships which give this exhibition a special insight into the creative process of the artist.

Theater

The MIT Dance Workshop and students of Mark Ammon's Acting I class present an informal showing of student works, directed by Beth Soll (Dance) and Mark Ammons (Acting), Friday, December 14 at 8:30pm in the T-Club Lounge of Dupont. Admission is free; for further information call 253-2908 or 253-4456.

Music

The New England Conservatory Chamber Wind Ensemble, directed by Frederic Cohen, will present the world premier of a newly discovered transcription by Beethoven of his *Sonata Pathetique*. The performance will also include works by Frescobaldi, Cherubini, Schubert, and others; it will take place at the NEC Williams Recital Hall, Wednesday, December 12 at 8pm; admission free. For information call 262-1120.

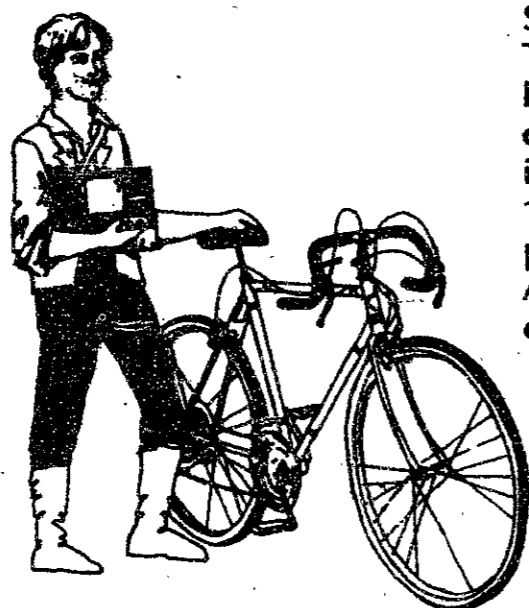
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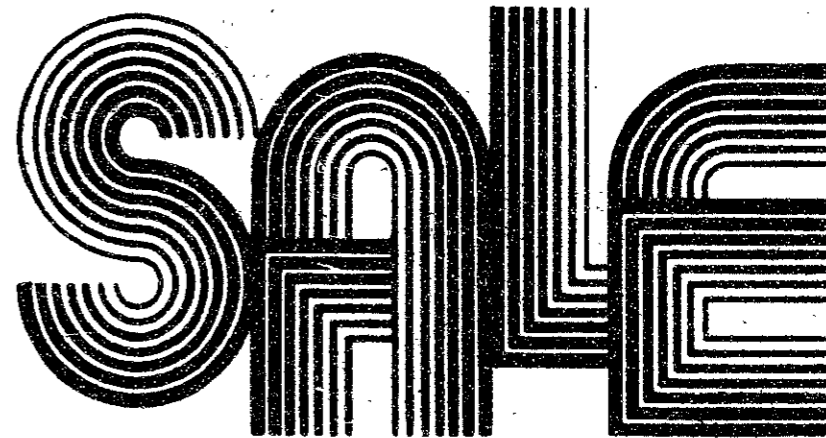
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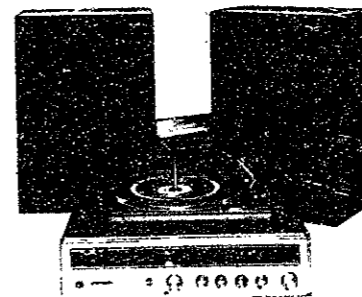


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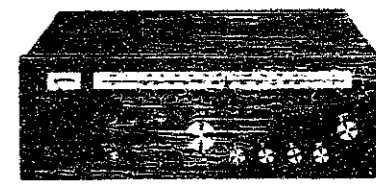


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Library staff and Physical Plant pass the buck on library woes

(Continued from page 1)

about the heating system, Hagge was inclined to place the majority of the responsibility on the library staff members. "They have got to obtain a basic familiarity with the system," he insisted. "It's true that there are heat sensors in the building and that whenever the temperature drops below 65 degrees, the computer activates the heat. Still, every one of the heating units has individual manual controls. It could be fifty degrees inside the library, but if all those manual controls are turned off no heat is going to get into the rooms. The same holds true for over-heating. If some other part of the Student Center calls for heat, and all the thermostats in the library are set too high, then the library is going to get too hot. All too often, my men have gone over in response to a complaint and found this to be the case. Students adjust the thermostats to their individual preferences and don't bother readjusting them, or else the thermostats get jammed into one position and no one bothers reporting it. The librarians have got to make it their responsibility to see that the thermostats are always adequately adjusted and maintained."

After Hagge's remarks were mentioned to McDowell, she again declined to make an official statement, but let it be known that blame did not rest solely on the library personnel. When problems have occurred in the past, often over a dozen calls would have to be made before someone would be located who would be willing to accept repair responsibility.

Hagge was willing to shoulder only a part of the blame for this.

"I will admit," he said, "that sometimes it is very hard to get in contact with the proper Physical Plant personnel. The telephone system is a bit convoluted, but we are working on installing a direct link from the library to the Work Control Center. Hopefully, then, only one call will be necessary to obtain prompt service on a complaint."

He again felt, however, that part of the problem lay in lack of library staff responsibility. "Night librarians might call in a

complaint, but they ought to realize that our night crew isn't as efficient as our regular daytime staff. All the complaint calls ought to be followed up the next day, to assure that the proper Physical Plant personnel get notified. Often, it is the case that our day crew will get word of some complaint made during the night, and, upon responding to the complaint, will find that the librarian on duty won't have any idea of what the problem might be."

The Tech announces its Volume 100 Board

Special to The Tech

Age proved to be no barrier to advancement as Stephanie Pollack '82 was elected Chairman of *The Tech* for its Centennial volume at the annual election meeting held Sunday. Pollack served as a Night Editor on the Board of Volume 99, and is the first sophomore to be elected Chairman in several years.

Joining Pollack on the four-person Executive Board are three members of the Class of 1981. Steven Solnick was selected to supervise the writing departments as Editor-in-Chief, and David Shaw will oversee production of *The Tech* as Managing Editor. Financial wizard Michael Taviss will formally become Business Manager.

Joining the Executive Board members to form the Editorial Board will be the three News Editors for 1980-81. Re-elected to the post for the third straight volume was Jordanna Hollander '81. Joining her in maintaining *The Tech's* most important department will be Jay Glass '82 and Richard Salz '82, both formerly Associate News Editors.

Extremism was the rule in the election for Night Editors, producing one grad student and two freshmen for the job. Elected were Hy Tran '79, Matthew Alschuler '83, and Roy Iwatake '83. Alschuler served this term as an Associate Night Editor.

Another veteran was re-elected in the post of Sports Editor in the person of Bob Host '81. Host's jock-watching duties will be aided this year by the addition of Associate Sports Editor Rich Auchus '82.

Keeping *The Tech's* readers informed of the diversionary side of MIT life will be the duo of Linda Schaffir '82 and Jon von Zelowitz

Legislation is introduced on loans

(Continued from page 1)

default rate would rise above five percent and there is "no way in the world it could go to nine percent," he added.

Gibson said that it was "simply untrue" that the federal government had not allocated enough money for operating budgets.

The tension between these two groups is not new. For the last two years, MAFA has attempted to have legislation passed which would create a new state agency that would oversee all state financial aid, including the loans, to provide coordinated action.

"They thought [they would

gain control of the agency]. I don't think they would have," observed Holst. "We think we know [our business] better than they do."

Gibson denied that MAFA could be assured of control of the new agency, but admitted that the group would have a powerful voice.

Jones claimed that Holst "slandered the bill. He told people that it would destroy MHEAC and destroy the guaranteed loan program. That is poppycock."

This piece of legislation, which last year was defeated by the House, will be reintroduced during the next legislative session.

'82, both Arts Editors for Volume 100. Von Zelowitz will be moving over from his former post of Night Editor

Returning his steady hand and expertise to the darkroom will be Kevin Osborn, re-elected as Photography Editor.

Shoring up *The Tech's* Advertising Department will be Advertising Manager Rich Epstein '83 and Accounts Director Robert Leishman '81.

After enduring a spate of non-contributing Contributing Editors over the past several volumes, the Board of *The Tech* decided to cause the holders of the position to be liable to carry

out duties specified by the Board. Accordingly, the Contributing Editors for Volume 100 are Gordon Hunter '80 (News Consultant), Leigh Passman '81 (Ombudsman), and Eric Sklar '81 (Production Consultant).

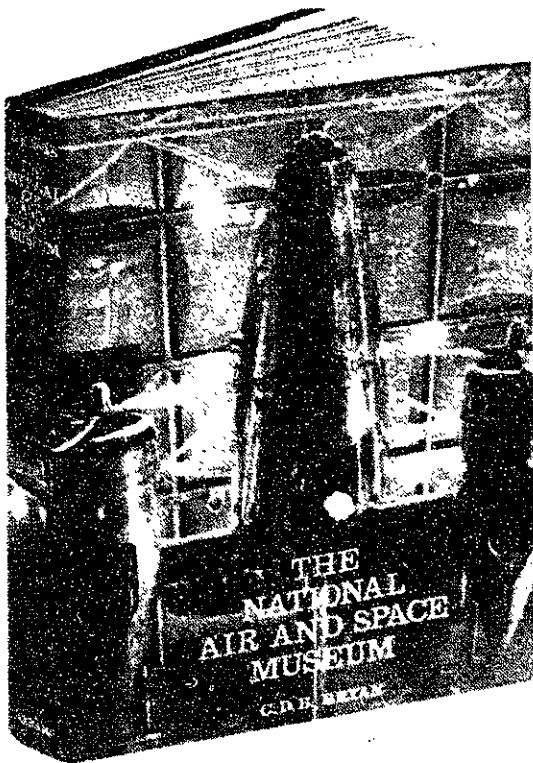
Outgoing Board members who are members of the senior class are eligible for the election to the non-voting Board position of Senior Editor. Retiring to pasture will be Steve Frann, Kathryn Gropp, and Marlon Weiss.

The newly-elected Board members will seize the reins of power with the first issue of Volume 100 in early February.

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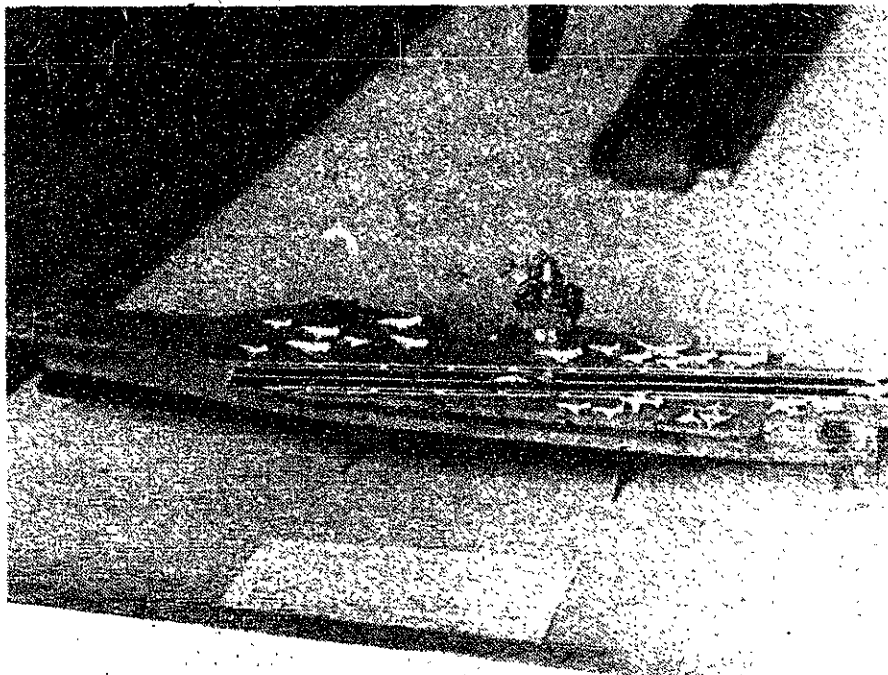
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By H. E. Sum

Course 13 majors and aficionados of the Hart Nautical Museum were dismayed last week to discover the mysterious theft of the model aircraft carrier U.S.S. James Tetazoo. The Tetazoo and its surrounding case were found missing last Wednesday. Campus Police Chief Oliveri reports no leads at present.

The Tetazoo was the most recent addition to the extensive MIT collection. Its dedication took place last October 14th in a late night ceremony. The Tetazoo was named after Captain James Tetazoo, Sr. U.S.M., an MIT graduate (Class of 1920) in naval engineering. Anyone having information on the subject is urged to contact the Campus Police.

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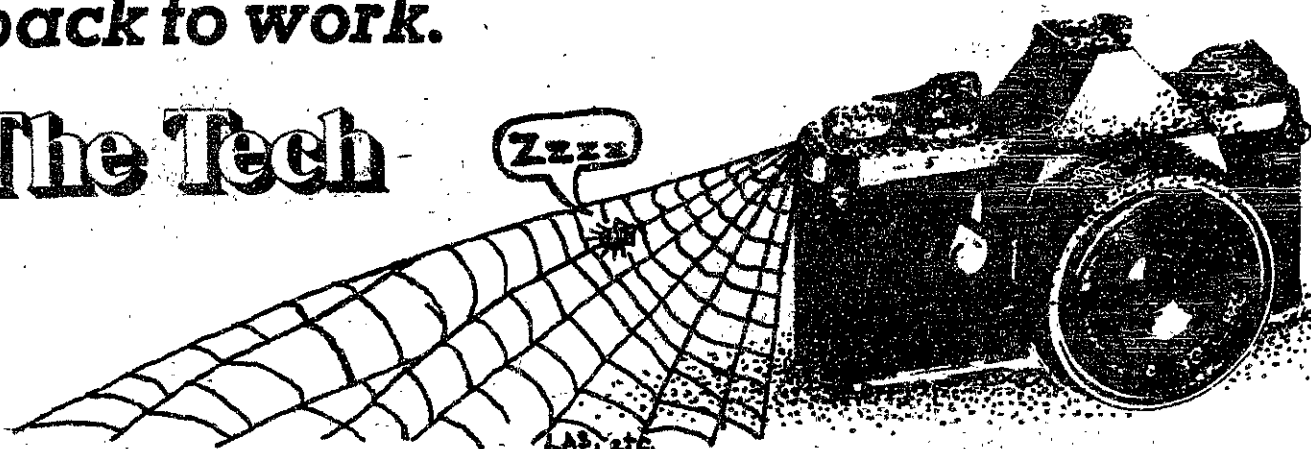
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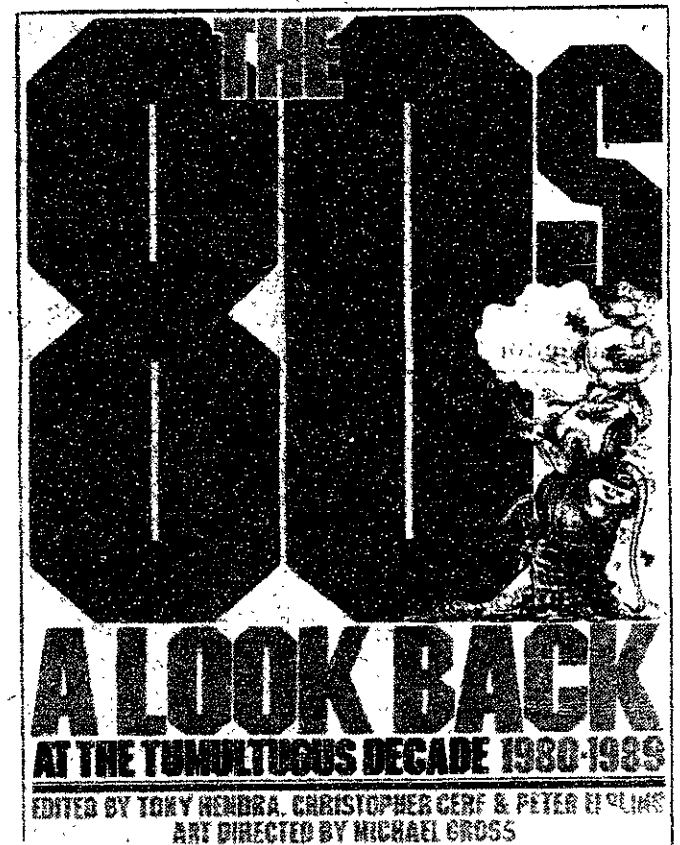
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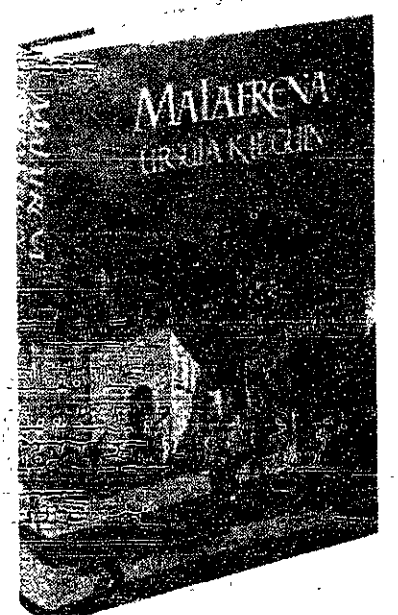


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sports

Swimmers unbeaten

By Rich Auchus

The men's and women's swimming teams have both won their only two meets during the '79 fall term.

The men defeated Coast Guard Thursday, 69-44. Ken Brady '80 placed first in both the one-and three-meter springboard diving, and Chris Moss '80 also scored two victories in the 200-yard breaststroke and the 200 individual medley. Dave Erickson '82 took first in the 200 freestyle, and John Schmitz '83 set a new school record by winning the 1000 freestyle in a time of 10:21.1.

The women's team had a field day Friday when they trounced Salem State, 86-40. The team of Laura Gooch '82, Shiela Konecke '80, Karen Klinecincz '82, and Barb Schneider '82 won the 200 yard medley relay. Mary Krull '80 swept the 50 yard and 100 yard freestyle; Karen Fortoul '82 won

both the 50 and 100 butterfly. Gooch scored two individual victories in the 50 backstroke and in the 200 individual medley, and Lisa Freed '82 placed first in both one-and three-meter springboard diving. Other individual winners were Julie Foster '83 in the 500 freestyle, Peggy Kniffen '83 in the 50 breaststroke, Maripat Corr '82 in the 100 backstroke, and Konecke in the 100 breaststroke.

It is important to note the large number of individuals who placed first in an event. This shows that the team has several talented swimmers, many of whom are underclassmen. Both teams went on to defeat Wesleyan on Saturday and will not compete again until January. The team travels to Florida over IAP to tune up for the bulk of its season. It is off to a fine start and can have an excellent year with a continued strong effort.

Track team defeats Holy Cross by five

By Eric R. Fleming

The men's varsity track team, undefeated in two meets, scored a 70-65 victory against Holy Cross in a dual meet held in Rockwell Cage Friday night. The win was the first time the team has defeated the Crusaders.

In the field events, the big surprise for the Engineers was in the long jump, with the home team finishing one-two. Nkere Udofia '83 easily took fist with a leap of 21 feet, 7 1/2 inches, with Max Klein '81 capturing second by 1 1/2 inches. The field events were important to MIT, especially the pole vault and high jump, where the squad received 17 out of a possible 18 points. Lew Nasser '81 tied a meet record in the pole vault by achieving a 13 feet even effort.

The big cushion that was gained in the field part of the meet was needed in the track events, as Holy Cross took most of the events, especially in the longer distances and relays. However, MIT held its own in the mile, 440, 880, and the 50 yard dash. Particularly exciting was the mile, where freshman Paul Neves showed why he was one of the top

trackmen in American high schools last year, and why he is one of Coach Gordon Kelly's rising stars. Staying close in second place for the first nine laps of the ten lap race, Neves turned on the speed to edge an experienced Holy Cross competitor with a time of 4:24.5. MIT's Len Nasser '80 kicked his way into third, clocking 4:36.7. Udofia, despite a groin pull, took second in the 50 yard dash, with Franklin Moore '83 taking a razor-sharp third (the results were not final for more than 30 minutes after the race). By this time, the result of the meet had just about been decided, and Crusaders victories in the relays were of no consequence to the outcome.

This Saturday marks the seventh annual Alumni meet, in which the current varsity team goes against a collection of former MIT track team members for an afternoon of fun and competition. The Alumni team has only won once in the six year history of the event, but has been competitive. Field events get underway at 2pm, with track action scheduled to begin around 3pm.

Malone's goals do it

By Lou Odette

Editor's note: Lou Odette is a member of the hockey team.

Freshmen Dale Malone's two goals led the hockey team to a 7-4 upset victory over Plymouth State Wednesday night in New Hampshire. Malone added two assists for four points on the night, one more than defenseman Al Stong '80 (two goals, one assist) and Matt Neville G (one goal and two assists).

Plymouth State is ranked with the best in Division 3 this year and has dominated MIT in the past. It looked as if it would continue the trend Wednesday night, holding MIT scoreless for the first half of the game while building a two goal lead. Malone's first goal, late in the second period, was answered by Plymouth State with four seconds left, and MIT started the final period down 3-1.

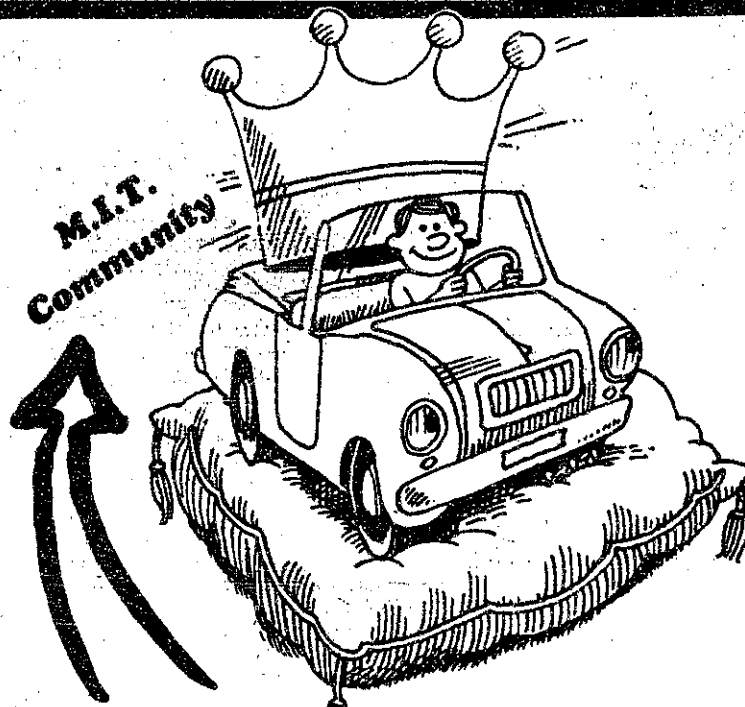
Seven minutes into the third period, MIT narrowed the gap on a power play goal by Joe Minahan '81, assisted by Malone. Just over a minute later, Malone again assisted as Strong tied the game at three. Neville put MIT ahead on an unassisted goal with

ten minutes to go, and assisted as Strong then gave MIT a two goal bulge on a blast from the point.

The sudden improvement in MIT's fortunes didn't sit well with the Plymouth State fans, with the bodychecking escalating in what was already a chippy game. The Plymouth State team used its sticks on MIT goaltender Larry Wagner '82 as much as it did on the puck, while MIT defenseman Roger Shepley G countered with his share of slamming.

A penalty on MIT gave Plymouth State the opportunity to close the gap, which it did with six minutes left to play, but MIT kept digging.

Dave Damery '80 hustled the puck out of the corner and fed Chris Johannesen '82, who put it on the stick of Scott Schwartz '81. In one motion, Schwartz took the pass and rang it off the post into the net. Malone took the steam out of Plymouth State entirely, completing a six goal third period for MIT with his second goal of the game, unassisted at 18:10. The win puts MIT's record at 2-1.



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YOUR SAFETY IS OUR BUSINESS AND SAVING YOU MONEY IS OUR BUSINESS, TOO!

Women's basketball records first victory

By Eric R. Fleming

Led by junior guard Karen Samuelsen's 22 points, the women's basketball team evened its record at 1-1 with a thrilling 46-43 victory over Regis College in Rockwell Cage Saturday afternoon.

Despite the fact that the score was close throughout, the Engineers generally had command of the game. Coach Jean Heiney's squad forced many Regis turnovers, with guard Susan Flint '81 playing a very strong game defensively. However, MIT shot very poorly, missing a number of fast break opportunities.

MIT took an 18-17 first half lead, led by Joyce Kelley '83 and Samuelsen with six points each. The team shot a horrendous eight-for-39 from the floor. Regis, fortunately for the hosts, could not do much better, shooting only six-for-26. Guard Susan Stulz '80 was injured on a drive to the hoop with 7:34 left in the half, leaving the team with only eight healthy bodies to see action.

The second half saw the Engineers continue to control most of the play, but again they could not capitalize on fast break chances. Regis stayed with in striking range with the aid of the one-and-one foul situation early in the half, and some excellent outside shooting by Regis guard Ann Manning. MIT at one time had a five point lead in the second half, but the Regis women hung tough until a Judy Emmert shot from the corner put the visitors up 43-42 with only 59 seconds remaining. The Engineers got the ball and set up their offense, realizing that since they had to shoot withing 30 seconds, Regis could have one more opportunity

to score. The team worked the ball around the key, and a pass from Kelley found Samuelsen alone to fire in a 17-footer to put MIT ahead by one, 44-43 with 25 seconds left. A Regis pass following the inbounds was intercepted by Flint who gave the ball to Samuelsen. Quickly fouled, she dropped in both ends of the two shot free throw to ice the game for the MIT women.

Though Stulz was injured, and the Engineers were riddled with fouls, Lisa Richardson '82 and Kate Mulroney '80 came off the bench to provide important defensive and rebounding help down the stretch. Stulz, who was helped off the court, checked in to a local hospital for knee surgery, and it is uncertain when (and if) she will be able to play again this season. Fortunately for the Engineers, their next game is not until January 9, when they face Gordon in the Cage. By then, it should become clear whether the senior guard will see action in the new year.



The women's basketball team in action. (Photo by V.H. Ule)

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score board

- Men's basketball 71, Brooklyn College 63
- Women's basketball 46, Regis 43
- Men's fencing 15, St. John's 12
- Men's fencing 15, Yale 12
- Yale 11, Women's fencing 5
- Women's swimming 86, Salem State 40
- Women's swimming 68, Wesleyan 54
- Men's swimming 69, Wesleyan 26
- Track 70, Holy Cross 65
- Navy 11, Squash 0
- Men's swimming 69, Coast Guard 44
- Hockey 7, Plymouth State 4
- Bryant 68, Women's basketball 52

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