Fifty days have passed since the start of the fall term; and as usual at MIT, they have been days of almost stupefying activity. The freshmen are beginning to learn and, perhaps indulge in a bit of self-satisfied back-patting. And anyone involved in the mainstream of MIT life can find a lot to look back upon with pride.

The days since the beginning of the term have seen the dedication of major new facilities; and the initiation of new research: they have seen the death of some beloved faculty members, and the appointment of others. They have seen the beginning of new approaches in basic physics and chemistry—the same varied response of the freshmen. They have seen men meeting the challenge of a questioning mind, from a Nobel Prize winner to the youngest freshman.

This fall the sports teams, notably sailing and cross country, have contributed much to be proud of. Publications, musical groups, and other activities have presented their first efforts with considerable success. The Association of Women Students has held a major intercollegiate conference; plans have been laid for another conference next year. The Institute has entered the excitement of the presidential campaign with a mock election and picked the winner. The Student Center Committee has unveiled the final plans of the building which may be the most important cohesive force in undergraduate life.

Even more amazing is the task ahead. The newly-elected Freshman Council will soon find a test of its organization on Freshman Day. "You Freshmen will have to start planning a worthy successor to this year's Junior Prom, which will be always the undergraduates' most memorable social event. Sports are already in training for spring events. The Institute Committee is planning a reorganization of student government to fit the requirements of changes in student life. In a few brief months most of the student organizations will have passed on the control of their part of campus life to new and younger members.

This activity is food for thought—and for action. It isn't hard to get into the stream of frenzied action that is MIT, and involves the Kind offers one very satisfying reward: at the end of the year, one can look back on the achievements of the year which are the boast of MIT, and an important part in the work and the accomplishment of this institution.

At the end of this year, will you be able to say that?

Two-wheel problem

The New England Journal of Medicine (October 15) has printed a brief article pointing out the negative side of an apparent campus institution: the motor scooter. These "gay, little, economical" vehicles are an integral part of the best way to beat the Boston traffic and parking problem; but the reasons they are not encouraged are equally obvious.

The journal was written from last year—one of them an MIT freshman—in which a fall, a bump in the road, or a swivel by a passing car resulted in permanent injury or death. The MIT freshman, a Merit Scholar, was, after a short throw to the street and a blow to the head, "unable to handle arithmetic of a grade school level."

The doctor writing the article pointed out that this danger hits at a group of the highest potential value to society, and suggested that the faculties of the schools in the area look into the matter.

The MIT administration has taken no direct prohibitive steps, and may not in the future. But care has been taken that the parents of incoming freshmen are aware of the problem in Boston's traffic.

A word of caution may be enough to prevent further serious accidents on a scooter; caution is not complete protection from a careless driver in a heavy automobile.

Correction

We would like to note that Bill Kieda, who wrote to us last week about the unfortunate conduct in Professor Mattace's lecture, is a member of the class of 1965, not 1966 as was printed. We also applaud the sentiments of the letter, and hope the freshmen will resist the temptation to fall into a habit which has endured too long.