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WW a success

Byrds highlight Weekend



By Steve Grant
Winter Weekend '68, with the most inviting lineup of entertainment of any MIT weekend in at least two years, was a definite success as an entertainment feature. The Strawberry Alarm Clock, the Byrds, the Buckingham-Hams, and the Ill Wind all turned in performances which varied from mediocre to excellent.

Problems of amplification kept the Strawberry Alarm Clock from performing at full capacity. Their vocals were completely drowned out by their instruments. The group's abilities, at any rate, are limited at best. Although some of their tunes are moderately catchy, they have little or no depth to their music.

Photo by Larry Stuart-Deutsch
A packed crowd attended the Saturday night Blast in the Armory, and listened to the Buckingham-Hams and Ill-Wind play while drinking Michelob and playing Fireside Rugby.

The Byrds, on the other hand, are one of the half-dozen best groups in rock today. Lead guitarist Jim McGuinn has consistently outdone his previous work throughout the group's history. Unfortunately he also seems to have scared away the other talented people who used to be with the Byrds. Gene Clark, David Crosby, and Mike Clark have each quit the group, and their departures have all been put down to an inability to get along with group leader McGuinn. Even so, records by the Byrds continue to be extremely worthwhile.

The Byrds have a reputation for not being able to back up in concert what they put down on record. This is partly true—"So You Want to Be a Rock 'n' Roll Star" loses most of its impact without the dubbed-in screaming of teeny-bopper fans. More important, however, than the absence of technical effects is the boredom that may have invaded the Byrds' music. They didn't seem really interested in what they were playing. This came through most clearly in "Eight Miles High," in which McGuinn seemed merely to be going through the motions of the record.

Only on the "encores" "Bells of Rhymney" and "Chimes of Freedom" did the group play with any real flair. They had the fortunate insurance that what they were playing was great, but they didn't play up to the music by any means.

It would be a little ludicrous to critically evaluate a musical performance at a beer blast, but both the Buckingham-Hams and the Ill Wind provided good loud drinking music. One additional note: the Ill Wind were as "on" as they've ever been Saturday night. Keep an eye on this band—they've got a great deal of talent.

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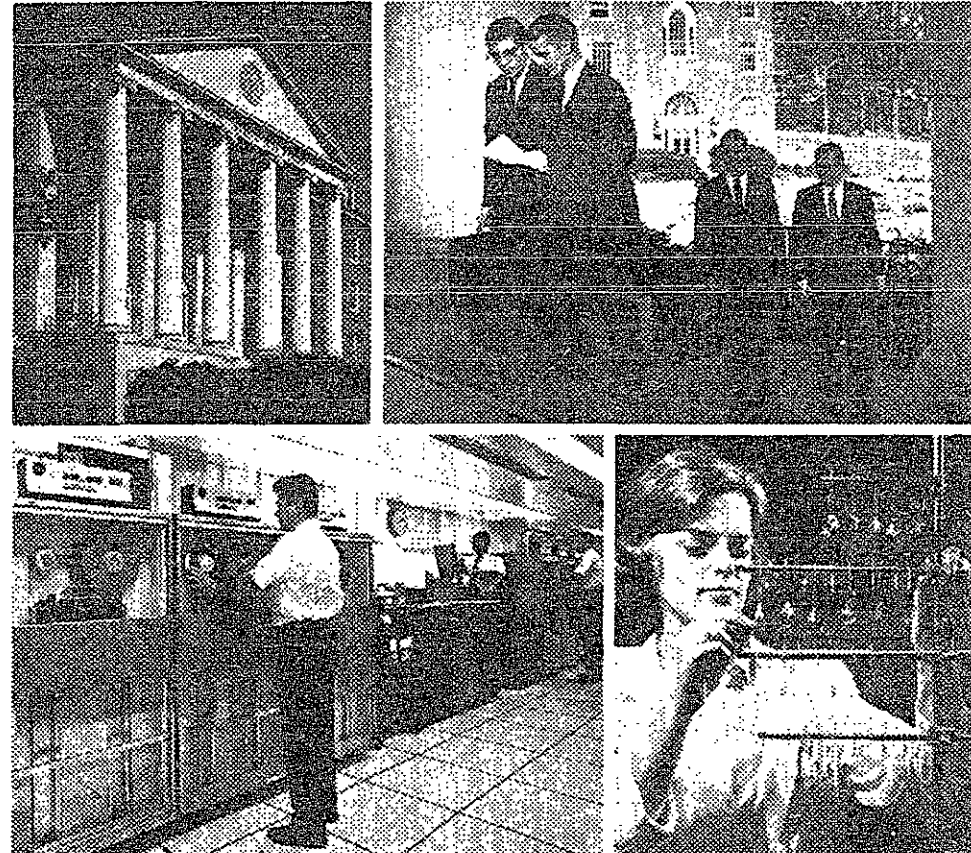
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CAMPUS INTERVIEWS MARCH 21

An NIH representative will be visiting your campus next week to discuss these positions with interested students. You may arrange an interview during this visit by contacting the Placement Office. Or, if you prefer, you may write or call

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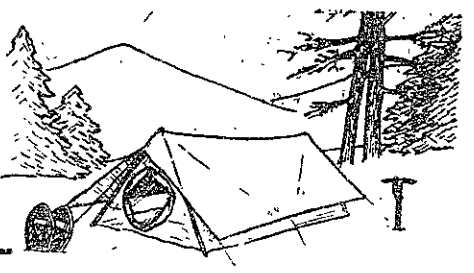
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The Tech wishes to apologize to Ed Seykota for inadvertently running the wrong campaign statement in the last issue. Although the correct statement had been supplied, a mix-up resulted in its being replaced by a reprint of an article on Mr. Seykota, which had been turned in with the candidate's picture.

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