Administration patience wearing thin

(Continued from page 3)

The Women's Caucus, and male chauvinism. An argument over the latter set the pace for the evening when the Women's Caucus sent word it would be out for another hour, and some people objected, wanting to get the general meeting under way. By 9:30 the Women's Caucus had joined the men in the Sala, and the meeting was under way, with about 225 present. The General Assembly proceeded, ignoring its agenda in the meeting room.

Administration arrives

The smooth progression of the evening was interrupted at one point by the arrival of Deans J. Daniel Nyhart and Richard Downing, followed shortly by MIT Vice-Presidents Kenneth Wadleigh and Malcolm Klapper. The deans took stock of the situation on the second floor, then joined the other two men and Dean Jay Hammerness in the Student Center Office on the third floor.

Upon learning of the presence of the radicals, the administration decided it wanted them out. Dean Nyhart told The Tech, "This is the group that has been working against MIT since last November. We are just tired of having them make their plans while using our facilities and our money." He also indicated that NAC/TDA was contemplating actions that might be illegal to the Cambridge community, adding to indications in NAC/TDA leaflets that City Hall and Central Square might be "targets" and possible subjects of "trashing." He said that MIT had a responsibility to Cambridge not to allow the sort of activity.

Nyhart, Eddleman meet

Nyhart, through an intermediary, asked Eddleman to come up to the Student Center office. There he asked the UAP to enter the Sala with him and ask the radicals to leave. Eddleman refused, whereupon Nyhart asked the UAP to enter the Sala instead. Nyhart then proceeded to the Sala, followed by Eddleman and Steingling, and walked to the mike while radicals cursed and shouted at him. Using the PA system to be heard over the epithets, he explained that Eddleman had no authority to grant use of the room and asked those present to leave peacefully. But he made no threats when radicals shouted, "and if we don't!"

At no point was the use of police to remove the NAC/TDA meeting contemplated. But Nyhart would not say how the MIT administration plans to force its apparently recent decision to deny the off-campus radicals the use of MIT facilities. Nyhart went back up stairs; Eddleman returned to the meeting room. Mike Albert, apparently worried about a bout of tauntings, thought fast and then went into the GA meeting.

"Your friendly Jesse"

"Sorry to interrupt," he told the delegates, "your friendly Jesse are fucking off again. Dean Nyhart is trying to throw us out of the Sala. If they try there will be a riot. Wells. It is the General Assembly said we could have the Sala." He suggested that the GA return to the Sala and let NAC/TDA be their "guests" there. Some 25 GA members took him up on it, including Eddleman, and went to the Sala. There Albert told the NAC/TDA group "the General Assembly is moving in here, and this is going to be a General Assembly meeting, and Nyhart can fuck himself!"

Meanwhile, Eddleman was still pacing the meeting, trying to keep the rapid exodus of GA delegates to the Sala (and elsewhere — ex-ecomm member John Krakowicz claimed that Paul Snaver, IFC Chairman, was ready to call in the police if the meeting room below the number reported to be in the Sala). Eddleman stormed out with the administration's patience wearing thin.

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Rump caucus

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