Dorms still squeezed in wake of R/O Week

(Continued from page 1)

384-man (and woman) capacity, far short of the 30% Institute average.

When rooms are assigned, the freshman living group preference cards are divided into groups by the designated first choice. The number of cards in each group is compared with the space available in that dorm; any excess is divided up among the unfilled dorms by the designated second (or third, fourth, fifth, etc.) choice. Upperclassmen within each dorm assign the freshmen to particular rooms.

Freshmen had no better luck this year than last in getting their first choice. Tuesday 78% of those assigned rooms found themselves in their preferred dorm. Assignments that after-noon stopped short of placing students in their fourth or fifth choice, and Wednesday another placement round was held for those unassigned freshmen and a placement round was held for students in their fourth or fifth choice. Upperclassmen within each dorm assign the freshmen in their preferred rooms.

By Wednesday afternoon more rooms were available, mostly as a result of fraternity pledging. That second day 50% of the freshmen assigned found themselves in their first choice. The final batch of 51 freshmen who were assigned rooms yesterday; it was this round that demonstrated the need for squeezing extra students into the dorms to provide space for all the freshmen.

Upperclassmen within each dorm assign the freshmen in their preferred rooms. Tuesday 78% of those assigned rooms found themselves in their preferred dorms. Assignments that after-noon stopped short of placing students in their fourth or fifth choice, and Wednesday another placement round was held for those unassigned freshmen and a few who risked their first-day assignment for a chance at a hole-in-the-wall room.

Yet to be resolved is the problem of transfer students (there were 114 this year). Except for special cases, the Institute will not guarantee them housing. Browning said that MIT felt an obligation to place a higher priority on the younger, less-experienced freshmen. Some transfer students pledged fraternity; most sought housing outside of the Institute's residence system. A few may be accommodated by last-minute cancellations.

There is no data yet on where MIT's black freshmen chose to live. Few went through the fraternity Rush Week, so almost all of them must be in dormitories. Browning pointed out that there is no classification by race on the room preference card, so a separate study must be made to determine where the blacks are living.

As mentioned earlier, placement of women in MIT housing went well. "All but four or five girls," said Browning, "got their first choice for a room assignment. We were disappointed, however, that we could satisfy so few of the Wellesley girls' requests, but our policy was to place MIT coeds in rooms first."

Of the 25 Wellesley students living on campus this year as participants in the MIT Wellesley Residence Exchange, 13 are living in McCormick. Only two listed that as their first choice. In addition, a number of them were reportedly displaced with their McCormick room assignments. On the other hand, it was clear that not a few coeds were less than pleased with the Wellesley invasion.

**DO YOU KNOW THAT...**

Savings Bank Life Insurance is available to people who live or work in Massachusetts...you should check it out while you are there. Rates may never be able to match again.

See us, as hundreds have. You'll save for the rest of your life.

CAMBRIDGE SAVINGS BANK — Kendall Square

Tech Coop Optical

See what The Tech can do for you?

Come up and see us this Wednesday night - Student Center Room 483, at 7 pm.

**Your Choice**

**PERSONAL CHECKING ACCOUNTS**

A Plan to Meet Your Needs...

**SERVICE-CHARGE FREE**

$100 MINIMUM BALANCE WAIVED when you:

- Keep $100 in your Savings Account or...
- Keep $100 in your Blue-Chip Plus Account or...
- Are Age 65 or over or...
- Are a Net Pay Depositor

**REGULAR CHECKING**

**200-CHECK PLAN**

"Your shortest path... to person-to-person banking."

**HARVARD TRUST COMPANY**

140 Cambridge Street, Cambridge, Mass. 02138

Member FDIC - One of the largest trust companies in New England