Deutsche Haus anfängt

By Liz Wise

Monopoly and Scrabble in German were two of the unlimited possibilities for things to learn over IAP. The key to finding these events was wandering over to McCormick’s Housemate’s Suite, where ten people were living in German House.

The first problem in transforming the Housemate’s Suite into a German House was getting people together who spoke German. The group was composed of people with at least the equivalent of 3.33.7 worth of German, including one native speaker, a couple of students who had been to Germany, and occasional German graduate students as guests. Even at that, “for the first three or four weeks there was a marked lack of conversation at the table,” according to Marcia Keyes ’72 who arranged the McCormick location for the group. But practice resulted in substantial improvement, so that by the end there was enough general proficiency for German jokes and puns.

A living situation like German House, where the inhabitants use German when they are there but use English during the day with the rest of the Institute, improves fluency and builds everyday non-literary vocabulary like “refrigerator,” “move,” and “climate.”

Women’s Lib demands ‘crimes against women’

By Debra Deutsch

In an effort to “present concrete cases of crimes against women,” Female Liberty and the Women’s Business Action Coalition (WBC) hosted a series of four speakers last Monday evening at MIT. Under discussion were problems with the law, the probability of legal action, the ramifications of litigation, feminism, and rape.

“Criminal Women” started off with Kay Bome, of the Governor’s Commission on the Status of Women. Telling the group a story of someone she termed “a woman in difficulty” who needed help and counseling and “very foolishly went to the police only to be referred to the stationhouse, where she was told that she could only get help from the courts. Once at the courthouse, the judge told her that he could do nothing for her and she was put on trial and convicted of manslaughter and given a 20 year sentence. She was put on probation instead, but with the following terms: she must either live with her family or move from the state. Once in prison, a female inmate “told Shirley, for both medical and social attitudes. To her, the police came in the middle of the night to arrest her. After four days of interrogation, Shirley was on trial and convicted of murder. Calling for the repeal of all abortion laws, she noted that abortions only bring on trauma and guilt when they are illegal. Joan also criticized bills that are pending in some southern states which would have welfare payments stopped or a woman sterilized if she had more than two children. She felt that a “woman’s body is her’s to control. She should have as few or as many children when she chooses.”

“Criminal Women” was followed by Joan Tenvax, who started off with Kay Bome, of the Governor’s Commission on the Status of Women. Telling the group a story of someone she termed “a woman in difficulty” who needed help and counseling and “very foolishly went to the police only to be referred to the stationhouse, where she was told that she could only get help from the courts. Once at the courthouse, the judge told her that he could do nothing for her and she was put on trial and convicted of manslaughter and given a 20 year sentence. She was put on probation instead, but with the following terms: she must either live with her family or move from the state. Once in prison, a female inmate “told Shirley, for both medical and social attitudes. To her, the police came in the middle of the night to arrest her. After four days of interrogation, Shirley was on trial and convicted of murder. Calling for the repeal of all abortion laws, she noted that abortions only bring on trauma and guilt when they are illegal. Joan also criticized bills that are pending in some southern states which would have welfare payments stopped or a woman sterilized if she had more than two children. She felt that a “woman’s body is her’s to control. She should have as few or as many children when she chooses.”

Connie Mayer, a Gay Action League’s representative, mentioned some of her experiences in the meeting that in 48 states, women are still being executed for various crimes, though no man would be. “Homosexuals are persecuted. It should not matter to the world that she was a homosexual.”

Turning society “nicking,” she said, “that we are beginning to work together for change in laws and social attitudes. To her, lesbians are those with fewer problems in their own society. So even though she’ll probably never need one, she is working with her “straight sisters.”

Debra Wise is probably the most highly charged word for women,” said Joan Lefferty, of the GA (please turn to page 3).