MTV: better news for the MIT masses

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Med Dept

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Dr. Seeler said this is because there is a relatively low demand at the Institute, and it is generally agreed that facilities which handle a large quantity of abortions do a better job.

Thus the department serves basically as a referral service. Sometimes, the woman will be sent to a local clinic or hospital, but at other times she will be sent to New York State, where the facilities are more accessible.

The current demand in the Boston area is much greater than there is on the front page of The Tech. 

"There are a couple of ways we would differ from the already existent news media. For example, I think there is more news in the front page of The Boston Herald than there is on the front page of The Tech. 

"MTV news certainly, but the limit of an MIT student's interest and Vassar Street. Who is President and where we are fighting our last war, or our next one, is also of interest." 

Reynolds continued. "Essentially, however, we will differ philosophically from every news organization now in existence on campus except for WGBH. There is a real difference, in terms of participation and excitement, is an electronic presentation as opposed to a print one.

"There are a lot of electrical engineers at MIT. We are offering them hands-on TV experience, and a chance to solve some of our problem, such as syncing two half-inch videotape machines we can edit more easily on them."

There will also be opportunities to operate and improve on other aspects of studio operation, such as switching and special effects, Reynolds stated. Existing campus news organizations have not found it easy to find and maintain a staff, but Reynolds does not feel that there is a limited supply of people interested in news. "We're not just news, we're also technology," he said, "and we offer a different set of personalities to handle with."

Diamond wholeheartedly backs the effort, noting that it ties in with a lot of ongoing MIT concerns. "Wiesner [MIT President Jerome B.] has expressed his opinion that more technology can get us out of the mess than technology has gotten us into. That idea has been sold, and articulate scientists and engineers can do that job if they get the kind of experience that MTV offers."

Diamond points out that TV has become the primary news source of a number of Americans, making it more critical than ever that the medium attract and hold personnel who are component to explain the complexities of technology. Diamond will probably run a seminar on "Television Content and Engineering Systems" this fall, if students express sufficient interest and a departmental umbrella for the course can be found.

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