Is incompetence impeachable?

By Michael McNamee*

The Harvard Crimson, home newspaper to the student population of Cambridge, has a tradition of annual editorials on the state of the nation and the President. During the last ten years, the Crimson has focused on issues ranging from malfeasance and high crimes to the energy crisis. Nixon and Johnson offered numerous reasons for their editorials: Presidents either carried the image of the down-home boy or insisted on making his annual trip to the mountains. Ford offered his plans to the nation and the country. During the last few months, however, Ford's image has been overlaid on a list of around the edges. During the midterm election campaigning, he was shown to be a man who doesn't feel the problems of the people around the country trying to attract the Republican vote. The last few weeks of the Christmas season, with the nation facing deepening economic problems, he hinted at making his annual ski trip to Colorado so he could ski for the benefit of the nation. The Denver Post, which delighted at the sight of the White House Press Secretary Ron Nessen areas. Rhodes refused to back Ford's plan comprehensively. He was named vice-president, Rockefeller was also named vice-president, Rockefeller was the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board, receiving regular information on the CIA covering topics like intervention in Chile, Watergate involvement by the CIA, and other matters.

In other areas of foreign policy, Ford's ineptitude is impossible to miss. His administration has made no progress in increasing aid for Vietnam has touched off wounds hardly healed from America's involvement in the Vietnam War. Amidst all the fears and uncertainties, Ford has been quoted as saying the President's plan "comprehensively" as his. Conflict of interest doesn't seem to mean a whole lot to Ford. The appointment of Nelson Rockefeller as vice-president, and the subsequent naming of the Rockefeller Commission to investigate the charges against CIA, show Ford's immense lack of any feelings of conflict of interest, Rockefeller, besides being one of the richest men in America with extensive holdings in Latin America, has been active in Latin America in recent years.

Letters to The Tech

Basketball success

To the Editor:

The First MIT Women's Invitational Basketball Tournament was to my mind one of the most important events on the MIT campus. The tournament was so well organized, the teams had a deep affection for MIT, and for the idea of women's sports, contributing to the high achievements of last weekend. One person in particular deserves everyone's attention. The athletic director at MIT, made sure that the week went smoothly from the indoor hospitality extended to the top teams from Brown, the University of Chicago and Radcliffe, to the closing ceremonies and awards of trophies. It was obvious that the Mats, Spies worked with a maximum of good will, intelligence and ability.

I wish I could report that this is the end of the story. It isn't. Many people at MIT who are not Harvard fans, are exposed to the idea of women's sports and equal opportunity on campus. Few if any of these "leaders" bothered to put their money where their mouths are at Rockwell Cage for the tournament. The Chicago team paid its air fare to come 1,000 miles to play, to my knowledge not one Harvard-Radcliffe administrator came the two miles down Massachusetts Avenue to watch the first game. The same March Madness, the same story. Of course, when the Dean of Student Affairs, and others, talk about increasing the number of women at MIT, not even could be spared to mail an invitation to women's basketball teams at Boston area high schools. We have to wait until next year, when the tournament is held at Chicago.

Edwin Dawson
"Putting Lecturer"
Feb. 3, 1975

Spelling mistakes

To the Editor:

I've been reading the Bee and issuing corrections from all sides for their ineffectiveness, their ineptitude, and their poor approach they take to the problems of cutting oil consumption and getting people back to work. While at the same time slowing inflation. Ford himself apparently has had trouble deciding what the Nixon Number One problem to be fixed: White House Press Secretary Ron Nessen has been quoted as saying the President made a "179 degree shift" in going from plans for a tax surcharge and oil prices to a plan for tax cuts and raising oil prices.

Now, Jerry Ford, the man of Congress for whom compromise was once a way of life, is refusing to compromise with leaders of Congress. Ford, who was either party over his energy plan, claiming that he won't budge until the legislators offer a plan as "comprehensive" as his. Ford said Congress to high standards, it seems, if he could only get anyone outside of the Administration to agree with his plan, unfortunately, even the Republicans on the Hill are taking issue with what the President wants. House Minority Leader John Rhodes, asked at a press conference last Wednesday if the "legislative plans" House Republicans were drafting would parallel Ford's proposals, replied: "It probably won't be the same plan. It will probably go beyond the President's plan; it may be even worse." Rhodes refused to back Ford's plan comprehensively.

It would be had if Ford were simply unable to manage the economy and chew bubblegum at the same time. But it seems that the President, deceptively, might by, also has some weakness when it comes to providing the "moral leadership" that the White House is supposed to give - a deficiency that is particularly noticeable in the post-Watergate era.

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* Jan. 29, 1975

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This issue marks the beginning of a major new project. The book will be a must-read reference for political analysts and journalists across the country. No one is accusing Ford of being an "imperial" president, or of missing his powers through illegal warfare, impeachment of funds, or other demonstrably impeachable actions. Elided into office by a press corps which delighted at the sight of the White House Press Secretary Ron Nessen areas. Rhodes refused to back Ford's plan comprehensively. He was named vice-president, Rockefeller was also named vice-president, Rockefeller was the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board, receiving regular information on the CIA covering topics like intervention in Chile, Watergate involvement by the CIA, and other matters.

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