Letters to The Tech

Easing the Crunch

To the Editor:

You mention the rules for freshmen and how they are restricted in their choice of where to live. The rules should be changed to allow all freshmen the same right as upperclassmen to choose where they live. The rules should allow freshmen freedom of choice as they enjoy the right to live in overcrowded dormitories. The freshmen should be able to choose overcrowded dormitories and share a room with someone they know or an acquaintance they know. The freshmen should be allowed to have the same freedom of choice as the upperclassmen.

Mitchell Trautchenkopf '78

Fairness

To the Editor:

Under the current rules freshmen are restricted in their choice of living quarters, and the rules of the Student Center today, they are allowed to go to college should have freedom of choice of where they live. The rules should be changed to allow freshmen the same right as upperclassmen, namely, the right to live in a dormitory off campus and then to escape overcrowding.

Lance Jaye G

Opinion

 USC from Cambridge

Hil...Huh?

(Consider the following conversation between a Fifth Year Student, a Senior, and a Recent graduate the other day. I can't vouch for the accuracy of what they've said - I just report the facts, ma'am.)

Fifth Year Student: This freshman class is really weird! I've never seen anything like it! Senior (not too interested): Yeah?

FYS: Yeah! I was sitting outside the Student Center today, and they were saying hi to each other! I mean, even if they didn't know each other, they'd walk up to each other and say hi and start talking to each other, just like there was something to discuss...

Sr: You mean like they were in class?

FYS: No, they didn't talk about gardening - they're asking where they were from, and what they were taking, and where they live, and whether they liked MIT and so on it was really weird...

Sr: Sounds antisocial to me - I mean, I really get in trouble acting like that. Don't they know something? I told you this class is a bunch of turkeys keeps getting worse...

FYS: Yeah, doesn't seem like they've learned anything or conformed at all since they've got here...

Sr: How do you do that? I mean, I wonder if someone walked up to me tomorrow and said hi - what would I do? What are you supposed to do?

FYS: You turkey! You're supposed to say hi, or hello and then ask him how he is.

Sr: You mean, like "Hi! How are you?"

FYS: Yeah.

Sr: And then he'd say, "Recent Graduate: What are you guys talking about?"

FYS: The freshmen - they're weird. They say hi and talk to each other, even if they don't know each other, and they're real friendly! I just didn't get it.

Sr: You've ever seen anything like it?

RG: Yeah... there was a guy that gave me an apple.

Sr: What if he says he's fine...

RG: No, that guy didn't kill himself, he landed on ice. You remember how cold it was that year? Jesus... The guy I'm thinking of, I think he... no, I reckon he wasn't the one.

FYS: Anyway - I think there's something wrong. What's with these people? It's really upsetting to have someone you don't know come up and say hi to you. What do you do? The first thing you know, the first thing you think is what does this guy want? Why is he saying...

FYS: What if he says he's fine and you say you're fine too, and then what? What do you say...

Sr: What was your mother's maiden name, what's your shirt size, what course did you enjoy most last term... What do you say to some total stranger who comes up and says hi...

Sr: That's what I mean - these people are dangerous. You know, if I kept saying hi and asking people how they are, what's going to happen? Aren't they going to get tired of being asked about their shirt size, and their hometowns, and their courses...? Who do they think they are, acting like that? They're going to upset a lot of people.

FYS: Yeah... it's bad enough talking to girls you know... but strangers... RG: Well, you know, they'll learn. Everybody who's come to MIT before has learned to be properly anti-social we did, didn't we? Do you know any upperclassmen who act like that? I wonder if that was the guy who hung himself...? FYS: Yeah, but these people have been here two whole weeks, and still...

Sr: You know, somebody ought to go in there and get an explanation from Peter Richard- sek. This doesn't make much sense - I'd love to know what's going on in the Admissions Office.

FYS: Didn't he say something last spring... you know, with the larger class...

Sr: Yeah, well, he said more grounds and turkeys - that's bad enough. He didn't say anything about people who actually like people...