Campus Media: then and now
By William Lasser

In 1881 The Tech published its first issue, and MIT had one student newspaper. It took 88 years before a group of students started Thursday, which was intended to provide political coverage in a highly politicized era. This week, the MIT community saw the debut of The Beaver, which is to be a weekly publication aimed at covering entertainment, intramural sports, the Boston social scene, and generally "soft" news.

It is indicative of the times that whereas Thursday was begun as a paper containing "no entertainment, no sports," The Beaver is entirely devoted to such topics. Thursday has of course, changed considerably — while it is still politically oriented, it has expanded its coverage to include the arts and nonpolitical news.

The Tech, while it has grown from a biweekly, primitive journal into a semiweekly, modern newspaper, has never really changed its editorial focus. The expansion of Tech Talk into a newspaper which provides coverage of official events and other items not necessarily of interest to undergraduates, relieved Campus as it perceives them. Right now, however, its focus is entirely devoted to such topics. On the whole, however, the Tech is still highly professional, maintaining a friendly spirit among them, breaking down the ancient barriers of class and department.

Times change; a look at The Beaver at some time in the future may reveal a newspaper quite unrelated to the one distributed on Wednesday. It will undoubtedly adapt itself to the needs of the Institute as it perceives them. Right now, however, its focus is a refreshing change from the "hard" news the other three newspapers must report.

1977:

Hackers Plant Screw in Lobby 7 Dome

1969:

Nixon: "Still Fussing Around" -- Page 7

THURSDAY

Harvard: Anatomy of the Takeover

1981:

The Tech.

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Advancing, political, and threatening materials are available on request.