Dormitory preference cards due today

By Jordana Hollander

The members of the class of '82 will be faced today with one of the most difficult decisions of their MIT careers: filling out their dormitory preference cards.

Although most freshmen have spent the weekend looking at the various dorms, many will take another tour of some of them to confirm their first impressions. Others, who have spent most of their time at fraternities, will be taking their first real look at the dormitory system. These freshmen realize that they may not be here for a fraternity or that living in a fraternity is really not what they want after all.

Once the preference cards are filled in, they are to be submitted to Student Affairs' office. This office will hold a series of lotteries to determine the dorm assignments. One will be held each day until all the freshmen are assigned to a dorm, a process usually lasting about five days.

The first round of the lottery takes about three hours and by midday Tuesday about 80 percent of the freshmen will have been assigned to their first choice dorms. The remainder, who have not been assigned to a dorm, will be reassigned to lower choice dorms during the remainder of the week.

A freshman trying to assess his chances of getting assigned to a particular dorm should keep two things in mind — the popularity of the dormitory he chooses and his order of preference for an Institute House (please list at least 3 choices).

Men:
- Baker House
- Berkeley Hall
- Butler House
- East Campus
- French House
- German House
- MacGregor House
- New West Christian Houses
- Random Hall
- Russian House
- Senior House

Women:
- Baker House
- Button House
- East Campus
- French House
- German House
- MacGregor House
- New West Christian Houses
- Random Hall
- Russian House
- Senior House

EXCERPTS

Telephones are its trade, but the most conspicuous thing about the American Telephone and Telegraph Company is its size. It is, in fact, the biggest corporation on earth. There is more of it than anything else, a very great deal of it being people.

No one outside the government employs more human beings. Sometimes, it seems that everyone works for it, and 562,000 people do. Some once took time off from serious matters to calculate that if it weren't for automatic switching systems, the phone company would actually have to employ enough people just to handle the switchboards. As it is, a skippin' five percent of its workers called in sick, the bedridden would equal the entire labor force of a medium-sized city.

"My feeling is this," one A.T.&T. person has said. "It's more than just a company. It is a world!"

It's the wealthiest company. Its assets amount to an eye-popping $90 billion. That's more than the combined assets of General Motors, Ford, General Electric, Chrysler and I.B.M. A particularly valuable asset is a jumble of wires and cable lengthy enough to stretch the size and back three times.

It makes a potful of money; $4 billion a year. That is $11 million a day, $750 a minute. It maps revenues of roughly $35 billion — below those of Exxon and General Motors — but who is to complain?

Three unedited 677 million shares of its stock stuff the safe deposit boxes of 2.9 million people, more than twice as many stockholders as any other company. They are fiercely loyal to Ma Bell. The average shareholder clings to his holdings about 12 years.

These somewhat whimsical reckonings add up to more than publicists' play. If you wanted to learn something about the workings of corporate life, you could hardly do better than to look at A.T.&T. As the mouthpiece of telephone service, it is loved and hated. People marvel at its gas-white technology, and they tell it to go fly a kite. Its looters are cluttered with some of the most complex and baffling problems in the world of business.

— N.R. Kleinfield

The New York Times

Fraternity rush concludes successfully

By Michael Ries

Dave Maurer, Interfraternity Conference (IFC) Rush '78 Chairman, indicated that "rush has been going superbly," and he accounts for the extremely large number of freshmen visiting fraternities by "the excellent summer rush done by many houses, the large size of the class, a lot of "good" freshmen as indicated by a 74 percent in comparison with 80 percent of last year's IFC officers, and this is considered to be a very high figure by several of last year's IFC officers.

One fraternity on the Cambridge side of the Charles River showed a slight decrease in the number of visiting freshmen, while most houses on the Boston side showed an increase. Maurer said that the houses on campus usually have a lot of freshmen coming through, and this year they appear to be doing as well as in the past.

Maurer noted that there has been some cross rushing between houses, but no major problems have occurred. One rush chairman commented that "cross rushing seems to be occurring between a few houses that traditionally rush the same type of people," and it has been "smooth but fierce." Most bids have been given out and Maurer indicated that "things should settle down when freshmen start pledging today."