MIT students are enthusiastic over disco

(Continued from page 1)

room Dance Club is sponsoring a series of disco lessons which are now being given each week in the Sala de Puerto Rico by dance instructor Kandy Deats.

Kelly Gamble '79, president of the Ballroom Dance Club organized the lessons. "I was approached by Tom Holton '0 with the idea and we decided to give it a try. We had about 280 people show up at the open class," she said. "We took an exactly even class of 40 men and 40 women. Next term Kandy has said that he would be perfectly willing to teach more sections and even advanced sections. Those 80 people, who were admitted on a first come, first served basis, are split into two sections of 40.

Deats, who gives instruction in ballroom, Latin and disco dancing, said that "there are no formal qualifications for disco, or any other type of dance instructor. I've been teaching ballroom dancing for five years. There is a real parallel between Latin American dances and disco." He added that the class is going well, and that "people are picking it up very quickly."

The students are apparently having fun while they learn. "I think it is one of the most painless ways to learn to dance," Liz Moberg '80 said. "You can pick disco up from a friend," she continued, "but you don't learn all the movements and finer nuances of dancing that way."

She thought that "the guy who is teaching us is an excellent teacher." Jill Shirley '80 agreed. [His] teaching style is very amusing and he keeps the class interested up."

Shirley also said, "I'd like to go to a disco now that I know how to dance." Other students had similar desires, and some are planning trips to Boston's better discos in a few weeks time.

The general consensus is that the classes are an excellent idea. Gamble remarked that they will almost certainly be continued in the future.

news roundup

**World**

Pope paid respects — An estimated 100,000 people attended a funeral Mass for Pope John Paul I on Wednesday outside Saint Peter's Basilica in Vatican City. A closed conclave of 114 cardinals to elect a new Pope begins October 14.

**National**

ERA makes progress — The U.S. Senate rejected on Wednesday a proposal that would have allowed state legislatures to reverse their votes on the proposed equal rights amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Further, the Senate failed to join the House today in approving a 39-month extension of the ratification period. ERA would then need the support of three more states by June of 1982 to pass.

700-page bill fails — The House killed a comprehensive US criminal code revision on Wednesday as many Representatives felt they had too little time in the current session to debate the legislation. Senator Edward Kennedy, the bill's main sponsor, said he would try to get it passed next year.

**Local**

Democrat dejects from camp — Barbara Ackermann, defeated by Edward King in the Democratic primary, has decided to support Republican gubernatorial candidate Francis King Jr. Ackermann blamed differences in principles and philosophy of government between herself and King for her Wednesday announcement.

— Nancy Martia

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