INSIDE

Professor Diboff, a linguist at Boston University, uses rather profound and innovative methods for teaching African languages.

The varsity basketball team defeated Babson in the season opener with a game that went down to the last second, 55-54, before a sizeable and spirited crowd.

p3

WEATHER

A beautiful day today under sunny skies and light winds with a high of 60. Cool, however, with highs 40-43. For tonight, clear to partly cloudy with a low of 34. For Saturday, partly cloudy and pleasant with highs in the mid-40's. Lows Saturday night in the low to mid 30's. Increasing clouds by Sunday with a chance of rain or snow by Sunday night or Monday morning. Chance of precipitation 10% today, 30% tonight and Saturday, 50% Sunday.

CAMPUS

The Class of '81 Ring Committee will provide a poster in Lobby 7 today on which class members are encouraged to express their preferences regarding the alternatives. Surveys are being collected in an effort to determine class opinion regarding the alternatives.

EXCERPTS

LONGMEADOW - Police in this small western Massa- chusetts town don't know it yet, but they're going to get some defensive driving lessons after putting $20,000 worth of dents in their police cruisers.

"Some police officers think they're the greatest drivers in the world, but they're not," says Police Chief Donald Albrecht, who scheduled the lesson. "They're the worst." He added about the reaction of his officers to taking the course, Abraham said. "They don't look about it yet.

This fall, weeks ago Abraham reported to the Board of Selectmen an accident he cal- led "a foolish mistake" in which two new police cars collided with each other while answering a house call.

FASTRA

The comic strip Paul Hubbard in the last issue was run incor- rectly. The first two panels were meant to be printed last, and the second two first.

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SSUFFOLK U students hold protest

By Jordana Hollander

Secretary of the Institute Vin- cent A. Fulmer is currently under fire for his position on student rights at Suffolk University, where he serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Fulmer, formerly a Vice- President of the Institute, has been heavily attacked by student leaders at Suffolk University for his refusal to allow Student Government Association (SGA) President Thomas Elia to appear before the Board at its November meeting.

Students at the University are highly incensed by their Trustees meeting behind closed doors. At the successful rally held in Temple Mall on November 3, many students carried signs with slogans like "No Tawil Without Representation," "Unite to Fight," and, on a more personal note, "Fulmer is a Goon!"

There are two main issues that Suffolk students are concerned with. One is the allocation of funds, noting that Suffolk is the only college in the area without a gym.

The second question students demanded is a part in the granting of scholarships to student leaders. The administration cut off the automatic service scholarships of eight, among the 30 or so scholarships that are held by Suffolk students.

In a heated committee meeting, to spectate or follow the difference "because the rings are too small." - Paul Hubbard

By Lenny Martin

Class of '81 Secretary/Treas- urer Jenny Ford resigned on Wednesday from the Committee in the aftermath of a heated meeting with the committee members.

Another committee member, class President Lori Ullman '81, commented, "I think this is rather irresponsible of Jenny to not fol- low through with the commit- ment to the committee and to the class.

In the controversial meeting, held Tuesday, the committee voted five to two in favor of changing the design on the ring from a beaver holding a twig to a beaver gnawing on a tree. The shift breaks a 52-year-old tradi-

Following some dissenting in- put from class members not on the Ring Committee, four com- mittee members momentarily retired to a separate room and an- nounced upon their return that the meeting was now closed. Ex- plained Ford in reference to the majority's failure to keep the meeting open, "Those people are stubborn." She charged that the committee never voted on whether the meeting would be open or closed. Ullman countered that nobody moved to leave the meeting open.

Ullman felt that committee members voted for what they thought the class wanted. Yet she downplayed the design change, asserting that people wouldn't notice the difference "because the rings will be so small.

Ford, on the other hand, voiced concern not only over the change in design, but also whether the ring was going to happen at all. She noted that, as it was put, ""railroaded through,"" that estimated that thirty-four of forty sophomores she had surveyed opposed this design, and that the sup- posed railroading or the breaking of tradition.

All but one of the twenty-five sophomores who attended the committee meeting, to speak or provide external input, also op- posed the change.

In criticizing the slim majority's refusal to compromise, Ford argued, "It's a class ring, and it should be acceptable to the greatest percentage of the class." She stressed the uncertainty in- herent in any survey, stating that a small sample of the class and the supposed railroading or the breaking of tradition.

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By Stephen Pollack

Isaac Asimov's October 20 lec- ture on "The Science Fiction Writer as Prophet" contained more humor than recent LSC lec- tures by comedians, and at the same time touched on many sub- jects important to MIT students and the technological world in general.

From the start, the audience was told that Asimov's topic was actually an excuse to talk about what he wanted to, and that's exactly what he did.

Asimov began by discussing his predictions of the calculator in his novels, and went on to cover slide rules, computers, the evolution of man, the future of the computer, and why it dislikes Trekkies.

The main part of the lecture, however, dealt with the future of the computer with respect to the future of mankind. Asimov views the computer as the "greatest humanizing force of the coming decade," because it will liberate mankind from menial tasks. He envisioned a worldwide com- puterized library and a universal language. He added "The more powerful computers could help unite the world and eliminate waste science, a field which he saw as "drowning in its own wastes." The second question Asimov said went over quite well with the audience that listened attentively to the lecture. Kresge. A statement about "faculty members and other superannuated haskins" drew loud applause. Later in the lec-

Asimov concluded the lecture with a half hour question and answer period, which was dominated by questions about space exploration. In the course of this session Asimov said that he felt both men and computers were programmed, but that "in the end, what could be more complicated than we haven't worked it out yet." Although everyone present agreed with this and many of Asimov's other com- ments (the 6-3's must have loved him), no one could deny that the lecture was amusing and highly enjoyable.

Asimov quite entertaining

Students at Suffolk view Fulmer's actions as part of a power play. An editorial in the Suffolk Journal called Fulmer "narrow minded and nothing but a deterrent to the students of Suf- folk University."

The day after the rally about 200 Suffolk students marched through Boston to President Thomas Fulmer's office. Then, led by SGA officers, students demonstrated in front of Fulmer's office. The Board meeting they had planned to picket was postponed by Fulmer.

Fulmer continued in this vein with a letter to SGA leaders in which he told students that "While street stalls can help build student organization, they can also be counter-productive and damaging to the reputation of an institution." Fulmer later re- quested that students not demonstrate at the Trustee's meeting, calling such behavior "beneath the dignity and purpose of knowledge," Ullman said.

Ullman also expressed that the poster apparently encouraged sophomores to come to the com- mittee meeting and give reasons for opting out of the change. She indicated that committee was actually an excuse to talk about what he wanted to, and that's exactly what he did.

On a more personal note, "Fulmer is a Goon!"

Fulmer felt that committee members were being encouraged in an effort to determine class opinion regarding the alternatives.

Brass Rat 1981: sticks or tree trunk

By Lenny Martin

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you no longer have to memorize anything that you don't want to." When this drew buzzes, Asimov added "I'm talking about a rational world.

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