

Hillel outlasts Gallimaufry in College Bowl

By Lenny Martin

Hillel won a controversial MIT College Bowl in Kresge Auditorium Thursday night, clipping Gallimaufry 290-280. Hillel was behind 270-240 with four minutes to go but scored 50 consecutive points to clinch the victory, as only one question, for ten points, remained.

There were about two minutes remaining for more questions when Master of Ceremonies Richard Reid, President of College Bowl, Inc., ran out of them. "We're sorry to have lost that way," said Gallimaufry's Jonathan Reiss '79 of the question shortage. "We were disappointed, but it wasn't unfair."

The stage was set for controversy before the evening's first semifinal match, when Reid informed the audience, "All my life I've wanted to come to MIT and the first thing that happens when I get here is that

the electronic system malfunctions."

Reid was referring to the buzzer signals normally activated by the players to determine who answers a toss-up question. Since the buzzers were not working, the contestants had to use hand signals.

The problem was minimized as judges confirmed or overruled Reid's few disputed signal decisions. Another small problem for some players was in hearing Reid read questions; a few occasionally asked him to repeat, to talk louder, or to speak more clearly.

But a touchier situation arose when Reid announced several minutes into the first semifinal match that he had a limited number of questions and that if there were no objection the rule would be that a match would end when no questions remained, or when the normal twenty minute time limit expired, whichever came first.

Some contestants complained that Reid should have announced the question shortage and accompanying policy before the match. Reid apologized, explaining that ending the game early when all the questions are used is standard in the College Bowl. Reiss later reported that the issue was not covered in a rulebook distributed to contestants beforehand.

Nobody raised any major objections, and the matches ran smoothly despite the sickly microphone and silent buzzers. Yet the audience stirred with disappointment when question depletion ground the seesaw finale to a halt with about two minutes on the clock.

"We took several big risks at the end. The cones could have been rods," said Hillel's Michael Stiefel '79 about a key toss-up question asking for a term denoting a part of the eye and a geometric solid known to

children. Stiefel said he chose "the one that came to my mind first" to spearhead the final effort to win the Bowl.

Team Captain Mike Shatz '79, Jeremy Nussbaum '79, and Richard Alexander '79 rounded out the winning squad. Shatz drew applause several times by answering questions before Reid finished posing them.

Each Hillel contestant won a TI-55 calculator, a Coop gift certificate, an MIT Press gift certificate, and a bowl emblazoned with the official College Bowl emblem. In addition, the team won the right to represent MIT in the Region 1 tournament. The winner of the tournament will qualify for national competition.

The runnerup team, Gallimaufry, comprised Captain James Massar '79, Lincoln Lab group leader Allan Grometstein, and

(Please turn to page 7)



(Photo by Gary Engleson)

Tech Show ends ten year lull

By Gordon Hunter

Editor's note: Gordon Hunter is the assistant producer of Tech Show

Some people thought it was dead and many considered it just a part of the past, but after a ten year wait, the Tech Show tradition is making a comeback.

This year's "Tech Show Presents" consists of two short plays, a musical and a one-act comedy. Sponsored by the Musical Theatre Guild (MTG), this IAP production is a first step toward the reestablishment of an annual musical written and produced by students. MTG hopes to present a full-scale production of Tech Show in the spring of 1980 or 1981.

Tech Show Presents '79 will be performed at 8pm on February 2 and 4 in the Sala de Puerto Rico. Tickets at \$1.50 (\$1.00 for MIT and Wellesley students) will be sold at the door.

A major driving force for this effort is the show's producer, Michael Connor '79. Connor said that he became involved in Tech Show because he had worked on

original theatre productions before coming to MIT and had "a certain nostalgia" for "grass roots theatre".

Connor attributed the success of this revival effort to timing, greater flexibility due to IAP, and the availability of the right people to put on the show. He added that he hoped that this production would "get people to think about Tech Show again," so that other students would contribute their talents to future shows.

One of the "right people" that Connor was referring to is Director Mark E. Schafer '79. Schafer decided to direct both plays because he "wanted to have a chance to direct again, and establish an MIT tradition."

Another of these "right people" is Michael Kirkish '79, who wrote the one-act comedy which is entitled *Loved and Lost, or That Old Hack Magic!* Kirkish explained that he is thrilled with the production because "it is very helpful to see the play acted out." He was echoed by the other playwright, Michael Taviss '81, who wrote the musical *The God*

Opton. Taviss added that "for an author, it is a real ego trip" to see his work on stage.

Taviss based his play on an idea and framework that was created

(Please turn to page 7)

Alum charged in Carter assault

By Steven Solnick and Ron Newman

MIT alumnus Peter Peckarsky '69 was arrested last Tuesday and charged with assault for allegedly attacking Billy Carter with a tire iron at Carter's gas station in Plains, Georgia.

Peckarsky, former staffer and Washington correspondent for *The Tech* through 1975, told *The Tech* that at the time he was investigating President Carter's finances "which are closely linked to Billy's" and that he considers the assault charge a "frameup".

According to accounts which appeared last week in the *New York Times* and *Washington Post* Peckarsky drove up to the Billy Carter household last Tuesday evening, at which time Mrs. Carter reportedly warned Peckarsky to get away from the house. According to Mrs. Carter, Peckarsky "shouted something" and left. When Peckarsky later arrived at the Carter gas station he encountered Billy Carter. Carter allegedly warned Peckarsky to stop bothering his wife, whereupon Peckarsky is alleged to have picked up a tire iron and started swinging at Carter.

The duty officer at the Plains Police station reported: "Peckarsky came running through the police department. He said Billy had assaulted him." Carter followed and accused Peckarsky of attacking him. Both were then taken to the Sumter County seat and Peckarsky was placed under arrest for assault.

Peckarsky, free on a \$2000 bond pending a March 19 court appearance, told *The Tech* that he stopped at the Carter household on the way to Plains to talk to Billy. Mrs. Carter appeared, and he asked her "one very sensitive question" about the Carter finances. Peckarsky said she told him to leave and he did. "At no time was I discourteous," he said. According to Peckarsky, his questioning alerted the

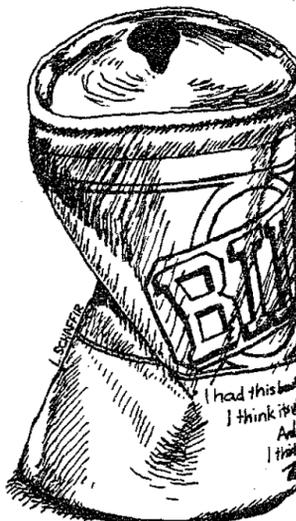
Carters that he had information they did not want revealed, and when he arrived at Plains, Billy Carter drove up to meet him. Carter reportedly asked Peckarsky if he had been at his house, and when told he was, Carter charged him, swinging.

Peckarsky said, "I had no weapon; I did not assault him. I ran." He then ran into the Plains Police Station followed by Carter. At this point, Carter claimed Peckarsky assaulted him with a tire iron later produced by a Plains policeman, later formally charging Peckarsky with assault. Peckarsky says he was held without being charged, and when he was later allowed to move his car he found Carter attempting to enter it. Carter allegedly charged him again and one of Carter's employees threw a brick at him. Carter was finally restrained by Plains police.

John Parks, Billy Carter's attorney, when reached at his home, indicated he would have "no comment, now or at any time in the future."

Peckarsky, citing a lack of witnesses, said he has not yet decided whether to file a counter assault charge and was waiting to see if Carter pressed his case. Peckarsky said his articles on the Carter finances would appear "whether I'm around to publish them or not," perhaps within a few weeks. He said the article would "ask some questions President Carter will not want to see asked."

Peckarsky gained some national attention in 1974 when, as Washington correspondent for *The Tech*, he asked then Secretary of State Henry Kissinger during a press conference: "have you... retained counsel for defense against a possible perjury indictment?" regarding testimony before the Senate. Many Washington observers believe Peckarsky's question led Kissinger to threaten to resign later that summer.



Linda Schaffir

inside

Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers delight a full house at Jonathan Swift's with modern jazz.

p5

The Tech looks at Boston radio stations that give exposure to local recording artists.

p6

Elaine Sears '79 leads the womens' gymnastics team to victory. The team evens its record despite the absence of injured All American Leslie Harris '81.

p9

MIT's women fencers dominate a four-way meet after losing two dual meets.

p11