News roundup

Solar System

Rings on Jupiter — Photographs taken last Sunday by instruments aboard the Voyager 1 spacecraft give evidence for the existence of a thin ring circling Jupiter. Jupiter, after Saturn and Uranus, is the third of the nine planets found to have such a ring.

World

Carter to Egypt — President Carter flew to Egypt yesterday claiming that peace in the Middle East “has come within reach.” Carter departed after he and Prime Minister Begin had made significant breakthroughs on several issues stalling the Israeli-Egyptian peace negotiations. At the same time, Palestinian terrorist bombed tourist buses in Israel, in protest of the new agreements.

Bazargan in trouble — New tensions arose in Tehran yesterday as Ayatullah Khomeini charged Mehdi Bazargan, his hand-picked Prime Minister, was “weak.” The challenge follows the criticism that Khomeini launched at Khomeini’s aide last week, claiming that they had undermined government efforts to reduce violence and restore stability in Iran.

Nation

Silkworm suit continues — The attorney for the family of Karen Silkworm of Oklahoma City cited autopsy claims, yesterday, that his death was caused by a blow to the head that is consistent with the injury found on the body. The family is planning a funeral for tomorrow night.

Local

Drinking age to 20 — Governor Edward King officially signed the drinking bill yesterday, raising the Massachusetts drinking age to 20. The bill becomes effective sometime in mid-April.

Weather

 Lingering coolness this morning will slowly give way to partly sunny skies by late in the day. With light northeast winds, high temperatures will reach 44-48. For tonight, look for partly cloudy skies with lows 34-38. Saturday should be pleasant though partly cloudy by late in the day. With light northwesterly winds, daytime highs will be near 50. For Saturday night, mild temperatures are expected with a low in the upper 30’s. Looking ahead: watch out for cooler weather by Sunday. Chances of precipitation are 30% today and tomorrow, but increasing to 50% by tomorrow night.

ASA favors denial of request

(Continued from page 17)

Seekers’ sponsorship was not needed to get the room. “The Bush Room is available to anyone affiliated with MIT and we’re MIT students,” he added.

Benz said later, “it does not matter what requirements were necessary for booking the room, but that once the reservation is made on the basis of an affiliation with a specific group, the advertising must include this affiliation.” He said further, “any event of possible controversy nature must be approved in advance by the Facilities Use Committee.”

The planned Purim celebration will be a “very Jewish event,” Gilfoyle contended. “We are celebrating Purim and God’s preservation of the Jewish people.”

Giffone, who said his Jewish heritage meant more to him after he became a Christian, explained, “We’re not trying to convince Jews to deny their heritage. We’re trying to tell them that Jesus is the Jewish Messiah and the fulfillment of God’s promises in the Hebrew Scriptures.”

Charles White, MIT Seekers advisor and a Park Street Church minister, said, “If the committee decides against us, we’ll investigate our First Amendment rights under the law.” He added, “It would be backing down to build pressures for Seekers to withdraw its bid for the room.”

White said attempts to cancel the activity clearly violated academic and religious freedoms and the right to free speech.

“It goes against the very idea of a university that one group is able to stop another from meeting. If Seekers objected to Hillel’s meetings, could we stop them?” White said.

He added that the decision sets a dangerous precedent by destroying meaningful dialogue. “A liberal society allows in opponents to speak and then refutes them. It doesn’t prevent them from speaking.”

Hillel Rabbi Dasi Shevitz’s objections to the Jews for Jesus activity were based on reasons similar to the ASA Executive Committee recommendations and Weinstein’s objections. He called the activity “deceptive, because a Christian Evangelical group is acting as a front for a New York organization.”

Shevitz said he objected to the activity because, “From what I know of the organization’s literature, actions, and aims, Jews for Jesus goal is to make Jews into Christians.”

Platz said, “I sincerely hope the decision of the committee will be positive. But if their decision goes against us, we’ll disagree with it, but we’ll comply.”

Platz said that Special Assistant to the Provost Louis Menashe who heads the Facilities Use Committee “would like Seekers to withdraw their bid for the room so that the issue doesn’t have to come up before the committee. We will not voluntarily withdraw.” Menashe refused to comment on the status of a decision still in progress.

“We don’t believe Christianity is something you put off and put on. It’s not just a different brand of religion. It’s the one true way.” Platz explained.

“The ASA is a criterion for us—a group is officially recognized by the facilities and our bid for the room was accepted. If and when the ASA is not a criterion for us, we will train our members on how to handle. Phone Ralph Ohde: 536-2412 for ticket information.

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SCIENCE APPLICATIONS, INC. INTERVIEWS ON CAMPUS MARCH 14TH

Friday, March 9, 1979

The Tech

Page 3

Freshman Evaluation Forms are due in Fri, March 23, Instructor turn-in deadline is Mon, Apr. 2.

Activity descriptions and listings for the 1979 Freshman Handbook should be submitted by Wed., March 14 to the OFA in 7-103.

The Physics Department will hold an Open House for freshmen and sophomores interested in learning more about the opportunities in physics for a major and/or career on Tues., March 13, from 3-5pm in the Undergraduate Physics Common Room, 4:339. Refreshments!