**MIT Cambridge Massachusetts**

Friday, April 27, 1979

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**Bids out on ice rink; work may start soon**

By Gordon B. Hoff

The final drawings for the new ice rink are completed and have gone out to the city, according to Harry Patrick, the MIT campus architect. The bids are due back in late May, and if accepted construction could start sometime in June.

Howard Johnson, chairman of the MIT corporation, stated that the Corporation gave the go-ahead for the final drawings in January. Johnson added "usually MIT has followed the prudent course of making sure the money has been reserved before starting construction on a new building. In this case, however, the members of the Corporation's Executive Committee, President Jerome Weisner and Chancellor Paul Gray felt that the new rink was first priority for student activities, so they gave the go-ahead even though all the money was not yet in.

To date, $5.5 million has been reserved. Johnson estimates that the total construction cost will be close to $8 million after taking into account inflation over the estimated 18 month construction time.

Almost half of the $5.5 million reserved sum is during the past year, according to Johnson. He added that this was a major factor in the Corporation's go-ahead decision. Most of this money was reserved last summer. Ross Smith, Director of Athletics, said "there hasn't been any major change in the money situation since last summer in terms of non-just gifts."

In explaining why the groundbreaking wasn't in April as was predicted last winter, Ross said there was a "slowdown in getting the final working drawings."

Johnson said that the major problem in getting the money for the new rink has been that alumni tend to mostly support scholarships and academic programs, not athletics. He added that he feels there will be a significant upturn in the future. The new rink, when completed, will not be open year-round. Instead it will operate as an ice rink from mid-October to mid-March and can be used as a special events center with about 4,000 seating capacity during the rest of the year. "It hasn't proved economically feasible at schools that have rinks (to operate year round) for tax reasons," said Smith. "You cannot operate for a profit.

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**City council rules on pinball**

By Richard Salt

A recent ordinance passed by the Cambridge City Council regarding pinball machines will probably not affect the machines on the MIT campus. The law, aimed primarily at arcades such as the 100 feet long 1001 Massachusetts Avenue, requires a $500 square foot fee for each machine. In addition, people under 17 are prohibited from playing during the hours of 8 to 10 pm when school is in session. Also, an attendant must be present at all times.

The fourteen machines in the second floor of the Student Center building are managed by the Student Center Committee, and last year brought in around $14,000. Meeting the space requirement would not be a problem, according to Eric Soff '69, since the law allows the entire building to be included in calculating the floor space. The committee is unsure what it will do about the requirement of an attendant to be present. They plan to discuss it at their meeting this Sunday.

Baker has two machines, managed by dormitory treasurer Wayne Warren '69. Their two new machines, they have it for about $90 a week. Regarding the new law, Warren said, "I don't anticipate that it will affect anything" but mentioned that the matter will be brought up at the next executive committee meeting.

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**Fiji party next Saturday**

By Richard Salt

Phi Gamma Delta's bi-annual "Fiji Island Party" will be held next Saturday, May 5. Buses will be leaving from various places around MIT at approximately 11:30pm. Admission to the party is free of charge, but busses tickets cost $3 per couple.

The theme of the party is a pineapple festival, and "natives" is encouraged. Decorations include paper-chains, models of Fiji gods, masks depicting island scenes, and saw-dust on the floor. The location of the party is a secret, known only to the "the Fiji gods and a few chosen priests," according to Dan Goldberger '60, who is in charge of running this year's party.

Refreshments will be served, and there will be live music. The punch is a secret traditional recipe, handed down from generation to generation. The band, Thunderstruck, is a Boston-based band. "They're a really good band," noted Goldberger. "They play rowdy rock and roll." He mentioned that they have played at the Paradise and that WBCN aired a tape of one of their concerts this past Tuesday night.

Goldberger is expecting about 1,000 people to attend this year's party, but noted that this is probably a "slight overestimate." Twenty-three busses have been hired. At a cost of $100 for each bus, renting the busses is the single largest capital expenditure, he said.

The first Island party was held in 1951. In 1965 the party was revived, and has been held every two years since then. It was planned to coincide with MIT's "Spring Weekend," now called Kaleidoscope. This year the party is returning to Kaleidoscope. "We're very happy about the return to Kaleidoscope," said Goldberger. "He meEd that he expects to have more people as a result of this party due to the increased publicity.

The party will cost about $5,000. Fiji has budgeted $2,800 for it, the rest coming from bus fares, grants from Fishbowl and the IFC. Donations have also been requested from any house sending a large number of people. "My job is to throw a good party, not watch the budget," said Goldberger. "We're going to have some fun. We'd like as much of the Institute as possible to have fun with us."

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**Techno**

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**Inside**

Students may once again be forced to register for the draft if any of eight bills is passed by Congress. Page 4.

Did you ever wonder what would happen if MIT were to lose its accreditation? Page 4.

Technique '79, though it has remedied many of last year's complaints, still remains somewhat lacking in comparison to some previous editions. Page 7.

The intramural softball season is running smoothly this year, and umpire problems that tend to plague other IM's are practically non-existent. Page 7.

Two members of the MIT pistol team were named All-Americans recently, and are now preparing for the National Championships which take place to compete in the Pan American or Olympic Games. Page 8.

Licensing Commission, the ruling applies only to those places having at least three machines. This is not mentioned in the new ordinance. A number of 1001 has filled for the license, and expects to comply with the law. "If the city does not grant 1001 the license, since they have been operating for two years without it, I expect them to do so," said Rosenthal. He added that the resulting court case would be "defeatable unless someone gives me a reason why a pinball machine needs 500 square feet." A pinball machine occupies 15 square feet.

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**With a 7-1 win over Suffolk, the varsity baseball team raised its record above .500 and now begins the task of taking on Brandeis, the number one ranked team in New England. See story on page 9.**