The freshman class of four years ago was 1,050 strong, about 50 less than MIT's original goal. The fraternity rush went slower than it had in the past ten years, and about fifty extra students had to be crowded into the already-tight dorm system. Also new to the campus that fall was the soon-to-be-loved "brick bunny," which started a year-long controversy over outdoor campus art.

Many topics that would prove to be of more or less constant concern over the next four years also surfaced. The General Assembly (GA) was going to look into nature of an "institute-wide drive toward more 'centered' subjects" to counteract the problem of grade inflation, and a column in The Tech asked which was more important — a strong intramural program, or becoming a football power.

On the national scene, Georgia Governor James Earl Carter assailed Gerald Ford's "lack of leadership" before a crowd of 4,000 at Boston College. While closely followed by many the presidential elections of 1976 had nowhere near the amount of student participation shown on the MIT campus this year; the voice of MIT students never rose above a whisper.

MIT and Harvard's self-imposed moratorium on recombinant DNA research was repeatedly extended during the year, as the city of Cambridge refused to take a firm, clear stand on the issue. The Institute went ahead with its plans to build a "PIT" laboratory for such experiments, however, and was ultimately vindicated when the city council gave such research the go-ahead.

On a financial side, several letters in The Tech attacked the tuition raise for the following year — up $350 to $4150. Also, a ruling passed down from Cambridge health officials said that all cook-