Four years of life at MIT

(continued from page 4)

sociation President once ever, with a margin of 50 votes. On the class level, the controversy over free-runs for class officers also surfaced for the first time. Interest in real politics also evidenced publicly as the Advisory Committee on Shareholder Responsibility took more interest in MIT's holdings involved with South Africa. The MIT-Wellesley Coalition Against Apartheid presented a thousand-signature petition to the MIT Corporation calling for full divestiture, and raised over $1.2 million of MIT's stock in corporations with South African holdings that would be affected.

As juniors, the Class of 1980 came in shortly after Dean for Student Affairs (DSA) Carol Eisenberg went out. Robert Hallman assumed her duties, but made it clear from the beginning that he was doing so on an interim basis and did not want the job. The interim period lasted over 18 months. Planning for Next House started, and the Committee on Campus Dining was created.

The faculty argued about the definition of liberal, and the Institute argued with its technical worker's union, and the Class of 1981 argued about their ring, apparently taking their cue from the class before them. Junior year also saw the growth of the drinking age issue from a "recreational" proposal by fine-year conservative Governor Ed King to a full-fledged law. MIT decided to let the students police themselves, mentally, and the Dornemon and IFC said they weren't going to do anything, so the class-year situation remained pretty much unchanged.

The only class situation, however, was not as favorable, as many undergraduates had their bubbles burst -- or eggs delfied -- for lack of a valid ID to present to businesses at nearby Dari's Cook, or Kat. The Cambridge City Council passed an ordinance assigned to restrict the number and operation of pinball machines. The staff of WBCN went on strike. The station, with its idiosyncratic programming, was a popular springboard for many from MIT's own WTBS -- which soon was to become WMBR.

As senior year opened, Kappo Auditorium closed. The Institute was also introduced to Paul Gray '54 new president, Shirley McBay, its new DSA, and Spring Olympics' its new spring weekend. Also introduced was its new dining plan, protests and boicotts notwithstanding.

A teach-in held on March 4 attempted to generate large-scale concern and interest in MIT's role in the technological world, and out of it a new campus newspaper, The Look, was formed.

A thesis rally also became popular as various draft registration bills worked their way through Congress.

As the primary season opened, students began to take on increasingly active role in politics once again, causing President Wiener to comment that he had not seen the students so active for over a decade.

LSC had several political speakers, Lobby 18 was constantly filled with students urging support of their respective candidates, and the MIT campus had a new hero: John Anderson.

A common concern for next year of a whopping 17 percent was announced, but that is probably not of much concern to those students participating in today's ceremonies.

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opinion

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