Overcrowding to greet '84

By Jay Glass

An expected 1090 freshmen are now arriving on campus, throwing speculation on the level of overcrowding the record of 1032 people set two years ago. The target set by the Academic Council for this year's incoming class was a class size of 1050 to 1075 freshmen. However, the "yield" of accepted applicants for MIT and the Ivy League schools was unusually high this year, resulting in the larger class size.

Last year's freshman class began with 1097 members, which dwindled to 1060 after R/O and registration. Assuming a similar attrition, the Class of '84 is expected to result in a class size of about 1075. The expected level of overcrowding this year is a record 254 women, said Dean of Housing Robert Sherwood. At least one-quarter of the entering class in each coed dormitory will be female, according to Sherwood. He noted that this new placement policy would help prevent an imbalance of women students in the direction of the "cooking" houses.

Coed dormitories would not necessarily be limited to only 25 percent women, however. As in last year's R/O, Zeta Psi fraternity will be allowed to rush before the Freshman Picnic. In the dormitory system, French, German, Spanish and Russian Houses have special permission to start their R/O activities today, a day and a half before the normal 6pm Saturday starting time for dormitories.

As of last night, about 375 freshmen (68 percent) had arrived at the R/O center. Earlier yesterday, a three-hour failure of the New York central traffic control system caused delays in the arrival of most freshmen, according to a TCA officer. No other major difficulties in the arrival and processing of the freshmen were reported.

Some brought baggage. (Photo by Rick Parker)

Drinking law attention grows

By Laura Farhi

A strong effort to discourage freshmen from drinking alcohol during R/O Week is being made by the Dean's Office. A letter to all house presidents urging them not to serve alcohol to freshmen has been put out by Dean of Student Affairs Shirley McBaly. McBaly, who reviewed Massachusetts State law establishing the minimum drinking age of 20, and includes a plea that the presidencies inform the freshmen of this law. A letter from McBaly about the drinking law was also included in the freshmen R/O packets.

As in the early Coeducation during R/O week will not be allowed to serve alcohol which will be served at R/O events, according to the

The record level of freshman overcrowding occurred in 1978, with a class size of 1097. Since that time, the addition of a new dormitory, Zeta Psi, to the housing system has helped relieve the crowding in the dormitories. Last year, about 110 people were crowded. According to Associate Dean of Housing Robert Sherwood, this year's class size is expected to yield a crowding level of about 140.

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Gangs of freshmen arrived yesterday. (Photo by Jon von Zerowitz)

UASO, SAS shaken up in DSA reorganization

By Steven Sonick

Dean for Student Affairs Shirley McBaly has made the first changes in the office she took over last April, the Dean's Office announced Wednesday. McBaly has promoted both Holiday Heine 67 and Robert Rendolph to the post of Associate Dean and placed them, respectively, in charge of the Undergraduate Academic Support Office (UASO) and Student Assistance Services (SAS) office. Each had previously served as Assistant Dean.

Professor Robert Hoffman will continue an Associate Dean in SAS, which handles student counseling, but is relinquishing administrative duties. He has succeeded Professor Alan Lazarus in UASO, which oversees academic advising and freshman orientation.

The move leaves the Dean's Office, for the first time in its history, without an MIT faculty member in an administrative role. McBaly noted that there were two half-time faculty positions open in the Dean's Office but said she has been unable to fill them. McBaly mentioned that Professor Lazarus did not formally step down from his post in UASO until the middle of last term. She explained she attempted to fill the vacancy with a faculty member, but had problems "finding the people."

She said she was unable to begin the search for a successor until June, and, since she knew few faculty, she was forced to "follow other people's leads to interest faculty." She commented, "Not surprisingly, we found people were interested in (Please turn to page 7)."