Harvard Bridge may be renamed

By Jack Link

A straw poll to aid selection of a new name for the Massachusetts Avenue bridge will be held tomorrow in Lobby 10. Anyone may vote in the poll, as many times as they please, through Friday.

The non-binding poll will be conducted by the special projects team (SPT) under the Undergraduate Association. About two dozen names are under consideration, and it is hoped that the public referendum will help narrow the list down to three to six proposals. A bill would then be submitted to the Massachusetts Legislative, which, if passed, would make the change official. (See editorial page for new proposals.)

The bridge, opened in 1893, is currently named after Rev. John Harvard and his estate, Harvard and the Charles. Harvard founded the school which would later become the University of Cambridge (Cambridge) has offered his pledge who was rolled across the bridge one night in 1957. Smoot back to cut the ribbon," remarked Balbus. The ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the official opening of the bridge was held in 1957.

Patricia Hanratty, chair of the bridge committee, said, "This leads to tremendous confusion, since the bridge is nowhere near the Anderson campus. It is, however, named more appropriately," she said.

According to Balbus, Richard Rotberg, MIT Professor of Government, and MIT President William Butler (Boston), although they have not yet released a name, the bridge connects the two senators' districts.

Women's election issues discussed

By Sarah Maguen

Patricia Hanratty, chair of the department of political science at Holy Cross College, declared that she was "still learning" about ERA. The Amendment will not be approved before its ratification deadline in 1983.

"It will take a cataclysmic event to start the amendment again," said Hanratty, while speaking on the topic of "Women in the 1980 Elections" last Thursday in the Cherington Room. She cited opposition in Southern states and within the American church network as major stumbling blocks to the passage of ERA.

In opposition only three more states are necessary and, currently, Illinois, Florida, and North Carolina are receiving concentrated attention.

Ms. Hanratty spoke briefly on the history of the women's political movement in America and led a discussion on current problems for the female electorate and the entire electoral process. She also voiced concern about women in the work force, the abortion issue, and the expansion of local and state bureaucracy.

In speech, Hanratty said that women had been attempting to organize at party conventions since 1920. Many women were disfranchised as they did not possess the right to vote, and as such, did not possess the right to voice their opinions.

At the 1980 Republican Convention, the long-standing commitment to ERA was overturned. Explaining the reason of women in the decision, Hanratty said, "There is enormous conflict between being an ideologue and a party person. They have a stake in the party and are just now in a powerful position."" 

Hanratty encouraged 18- to 25-year-olds to mobilize since they are members of the most inactive voting sector. A major concern of the audience was the political effectiveness of the electorate, as only 54 percent of the eligible voters voiced their opinions in the 1976 presidential election.

Hanratty characterized the problem with the Anderson campaign. She said, "The American political system is a really resilient institution. The third party candidate and seemingly destined loser seems to be attracting marginal support." She also remarked that Carter's campaign is somewhat of a farce since the issues on his platform are mostly things he has been speaking out against; the thinks he has given a lot of lip service but his administration has done very little for women's issues.

About Reagan, Hanratty remarked, "I think he's less conservative than people think. He walks a fine line with the conservative causes who support him.

Hanratty declared that the currently supports none of the three major candidates.

Racial policy debated at African seminar

By Jerri-Lynn Scofield

The first session of the third decade of the African Lunch Seminars became an open forum when the featured speaker, Percy Quboza, failed to appear.

Quboza, editor-in-chief of The Johannesburg Post and editor in residence of The Washington Star was scheduled to speak on the subject of "South Africa: It's Really Changing." He was delayed by a late airplane, according to Professor Robert Rutter, MIT Professor of Political Science and the organizer of the luncheon series. When it became clear that Quboza would be late for the meeting, Rutter opened the meeting for general discussion.

Kate Jowell, Professor at the University of Cape Town's School of Business, disagreed with New York Times columnist Anthony Lewis on at least two points. Rutter emphasized that while official South African government racial policies need to be improved significantly, progress has been achieved in the labor arena over the past year.

Lewis disagreed with the relative importance of these strides.

Jowell took exception to Lewis' statement, "There is no black South African consulted in matters of South African government," Jowell indicated that she had served on labor affairs committees that had representatives of the black majority on them. Lewis then modified his position, saying that there is no direct political consultation in blacks in South Africa. Jowell remarked that it was not unprecedented for the South African government to ignore representatives of social groups significantly affected by political decisions, especially the South African government appointed a commission to study abortion two years ago that did not include a woman among its membership.

Roberg has been organizing luncheon seminars for 29 years. The seminars started while Roberg was teaching at Harvard and followed him to MIT. They are now conducted under the auspices of MIT's Center for International Studies.

The next seminar is scheduled for Oct. 21, 1980, in room E36-76. The speaker will be O. Naomiz Chatan, Director of African Studies of the Harry Trumman Institute at Hebrew University, on the subject of Modern Ghana.

Women of color have been entering the political scene in Smith College, when President F.O. Roswell announced that Quboza would be late for the meeting, Rutter opened the meeting for general discussion. When it became clear that Quboza would be late for the meeting, Rutter opened the meeting for general discussion. Lewis disagreed with the relative importance of these strides.

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