Corbato appointed as computer "czar"

By Tom Loredo

Dr. Fernando J. Corbato was appointed Director of Computing and Telecommunications Resources in the Office of the Provost last summer by Professor Francis E. Low, MIT Provost. Corbato oversees the use of computing services for education, research, and administration across the MIT community. He is also responsible for assessing the plurality of the computing needs of the MIT community so that plans for future evolution of computing and telecommunication can be made.

The appointment resulted from a recommendation made in the Report on Future Computational Needs and Resources issued in 1979 by the Ad Hoc Committee on Computing. Following the committee's further recommendation, Corbato has set up an advisory committee, the Committee on Computing Environment. This committee is chaired by Professor of Physics Robert Hulsizer and has its first meeting Thursday, November 20. Professor Corbato has worked extensively on the design of multiple access computer systems. In 1960 he led the effort to develop the Compatible Time Sharing System which led to the development of the Multiplexed Information and Computing Service (Multics) now in use at MIT and elsewhere.

Corbato has written many technical papers and has co-authored several books. He is a member of the editorial board of the MIT Press, and a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. In 1965 he became full professor, and from 1974-78 he held the position of associate department head for Computer Science and Engineering. Recently Corbato has been Carl H. Hovem, Professor of Computer Science and Engineering, and for two-year term ending this year, he used the professorship to study large-scale integrated circuit design technology.

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Wastes defined

(Continued from page 1) required to continue to do so by Federal law. Problems could arise, however, if disposal sites close.

RCRA defines hazardous waste as "a solid waste, or combination of solid wastes, which because of its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical, or infectious characteristics may: (a.) cause, or significantly contribute to an increase in mortality or an increase in serious irreversible, or incapacitating reversible, illness; or (b.) pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, or disposed of, or otherwise managed." Hazaradous wastes are identified on the basis of toxicity, reactivity, ignitability, corrosivity.

World

Iran possibly ready to negotiate — Hojatoleslam Hashemi Rafsanjani, speaker of the Iranian parliament, indicated unofficially that Iran may now be prepared to negotiate with the US on release of the 52 American hostages. In a conference held on Tuesday, Rafsanjani said, "The United States has accepted the conditions. We have accepted to release the hostages." He indicated that Iran would release the hostages "gradually." US officials, including Secretary of State Edmund Muskie, expressed cautious optimism at this latest pronouncement of the Iranian government. Muskie recalled that this is not the first time in the year-long hostage crisis that Iran has promised to release its American captives.

Joe chasteled — Barbara Engi, chairman of the League of German Catholic Youth, chastised Pope John Paul II in her visit to the Vatican Tuesday. Engi criticized the pontiff for "many prohibitions" in the church's positions on marital life, sexuality, birth control, ordination of the clergy, and the role of women within the church. The Pope sat six feet away from Engi during their meeting, with bowed head, and chose not to respond to any of her criticisms.

Local

Hearing ordered on 2½ challenge — The Massachusetts Teachers Association, the Massachusetts Coalition of Police, and the AFL-CIO have filed suit in Suffolk Superior Court testing the constitutionality of the new law. Justice Ruth I. Abrams ordered that the case be heard promptly. The suit names Revenue Commissioner L. Joyce Wissler and other state officials as defendants. Plaintiffs are asking the court to issue injunctions prohibiting the new law from taking effect on December 4 as planned.

By Jerri-Lynn Scofield

Weather

Milder today with southwest breezes, some cloudiness but mostly sunny skies. Highs will be in the upper 60's. A weak cold front will pass through with neither precipitation. Lows near 35. For Saturday, quite mild with highs near 50 with partly to mostly sunny skies. Lows Saturday night near 45. Chance of rain 20 percent today and Saturday.

By James Franklin