MacGregor to go coed

By Michael Pietter

MacGregor House, the only all-male dormitory on campus is considering a proposal that would transform part of the house into an all-female living group. Under the proposal, presented by House president Steve Solnick '81, a speaker for the MacGregor dining hall, would be proposed. He said that the plan was "more than just a matter of necessity."

The students at the forum voted almost unanimously in favor of the proposal, since most of those who would be affected were present. Seventy percent of those who entered a binding referendum were in favor of the change. Medek said that he "will not want to be shuffled around and there is still a shortage of all-female space." He said that the 25 percent figure was "modest and reasonable in its requirements."

The House Committee initially rejected the proposal in a closed session. Representatives of the nine entries as well as the House president, the dean, and the student vote were present. According to Medek, "In general, the seven entries are not willing to make any concessions such as giving room priorities to transfer out of the low-rise, who would be affected by the change. Medek said that the women would feel that the house would therefore be overwhelmed. He believed that the burden of room reassignments would not fall fully on the low-rise residents."

The House Committee can be forced to hold a binding referendum on the issue if the appropriate petition from house residents is presented. Medek explained. Cosse told The Tech that the plan was "an attempt to accommodate the changes and the displaced male students.

The number of incoming women will determine the size of the section to be set aside. Current resident vote will be held until the floor is entirely female. The members of the living area, or in other words, the students who are placed for house governmental and social functions. House room assignments will have to be modified to accommodate the changes and the displaced male students.

This plan was presented to the MacGregor House Committee on February 12, an open forum on the coed issue was held. Approximately sixty students, almost all from the low-rise entries F, G, H, and J, were present to debate the proposal. The students at the forum voted almost unanimously in favor of the proposal, since most of those who would be affected were present. Seventy percent of those who entered a binding referendum were in favor of the change. Medek said that the plan was "more than just a matter of necessity."

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The idea for the coed proposal came from a straw-poll held on December 4, in which 72 percent of MacGregor Dues who voted indicated a desire for the House to go coed. However, 69 percent of those who voted did not want to change if they would have to be moved out of their rooms. About 60 percent of the House residents voted. Now that the issue has been voted on, another poll could show a considerable change in opinion.

MIT student granted Marshall Scholarship

By Tom Loredo

Steve Solnick '81 was one of thirty American students awarded Marshall Scholarships, an honor he apprived to up to three years of study at a British university of his own choice. Solnick is a senior in the Physics department. He was editor-in-chief of the physics magazine of The Tech and has been active in Dramashop. Solnick will study Philosophy, Politics and Economics at Oxford University with a scholarship.

The Marshall program was founded in Britain in 1953 in appreciation for the help Britain received from the United States under the Marshall Plan. The prestigious scholarships are presented to candidates whose "distinction of intellect and character are evidenced both by their scholastic attainments and by their other activities and achievements," according to the Rules for Candidates. Candidates apply each October to one of five regional offices throughout the US. They must be US citizens or of foreign parentage, they must have an undergraduate degree. They must also "display a potential to make significant contributions to their own society." This year's winners are from nineteen colleges or universities and have attended to the universities at Cambridge, Durham, Edinburgh, London, Oxford, Sussex, and Wales. The winners have been selected and looking forward to it," remarked Solnick.

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