Ice rink to close

By Lawrence Choi

On March 20, the ice skating rink at the newly-built Athletic and Events Center will close. As central and intercollegiate hockey games, as well as PE skating classes will be completed by that time, the three boards on which the skating rink will be disassembled by workers from the Minnesota company, Rinck Ice Makers Inc., which originally built the new outer last year, according to Assistant Athletic Director John G. Barry. The March 20 closing date for the new indoor ice rink is the same as the closing date for the old outdoor skating rink. Asked why the rink was closing on March 20 rather than later in April or at any other date, so that the MIT community can utilize the ice skating facility for a longer time period, Barry said “The contract which MIT made with the company in Minnesota calls for the removal of the dash boards on March 20, and to postpone it will cost a great deal of added expense for MIT.”

Agreeing that the MIT community would prefer to have the rink open beyond March 20, he promised that next year the facility shall be open at least until April 15.

The reopening date for the skating rink is scheduled for October and, until then, the rink will be converted in to a place to hold various activities. The rink may be used as a place for indoor graduation ceremonies if weather conditions make that necessary. The maximum seating capacity for the facility is 4,200 persons, and the site can be reserved by the MIT community through Barry’s office.

Salesclerks handbill

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Steve Stansel, a textbook buyer for the Coop, pointed out that he did not have a vote in the March 26 vote on union representation, but still had “mixed feelings about the issue.” He claims there is “no pressure” from upper management, although there have been managers’ meetings “to inform people of what is going on.” “Lunt is trying to keep a low profile at this point,” added employee, R. K. Stansel.

Barry’s statement of official company policy. She noted, however, that “higher turn-over causes a lot of the employees’ unhappiness. It is a Coop tradition to get someone else.” “What really bugs me,” emphasized Magnan, “are the pay (an average of $95 to $97 a week) and the working conditions.” She explained that, although listed as store clerks, employees are expected to do stock work, returns, ordering, and clerical work as well, and should therefore be paid accordingly.

A Coop employee for four years, Magnan also complained of the lack of grievance procedure and a statement of official company policy. She noted, however, that only recently the management has produced a two page handbook.

Magnan said she thought the union organizers “have the support of Coop workers, especially the older employees.”