Dining workers vote to accept new contract

No need for strike plans

By Barry S. Sarman
MIT's dining service employees accepted the Institute's final contract offer by better than a three-to-one margin Wednesday night. Members of Local 26 of the Hotel, Restaurant, Institutional Employees, and Bartenders Union, AFL-CIO, approved the two-year contract by a vote of 58 to 16, with one abstention.

"That's good news," commented Gene Brummer, Director of Housing and Food Services.

"We've always had a very good relationship with our union people and we expect to continue it," he added.

Dominic Bozzotto, President and Business Manager of Local 26, felt that the settlement between MIT and Local 254 of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), reached September 1, influenced the outcome of the vote. "There's an undercurrent of fear among the membership," he said, "that the other unions, especially SEIU, will not back them... We think it's the best contract for now; if SEIU didn't go short on us it's the best contract for now; if 

and the Faculty Club, calls for ten percent of their students are on four-year scholarships, according to a 1980 report compiled for Herbert S. Hoffman, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

According to information in the report, enrollment in the three ROTC programs at MIT in 1980 was 541 (12 percent of the undergraduate population). Two years ago, 485 students participated (10 percent), while only 143 (3 percent) were enrolled in 1974. Nationally, there were 106,810 cadets last year, 92,172 the previous year, and 63,266 in 1974.

The Army will award 8,500 scholarships this year, an increase of 2,000 over the awards in 1980. Congress had previously lifted the ceiling on the number of Army ROTC scholarships available, raising it to 12,000. A bill proposed by the Senate Armed Services Committee passed in the Senate last week, raising Navy

The way it might have been...

By Barry S. Sarman

MIT's multiyear plans for a dining strike would have left Walker Kitchen, the only operating facility on campus, according to Gene Brummer,

Director of Housing and Food Services.

Bozzotto also noted that his personal reaction to the contract ratification vote Wednesday night, "If they go out Thursday or Friday, we'll open up on Monday.

The facility would have been operated by supervisory personnel, who would "eat" service themselves for students that are on a meal plan," explained Brummer.

Bozzotto would have had to either continue the existing crew or find new workers.

"We know their leadership would have told them to cross the picket line." the new contract, which covers employees at the six dining halls and the Faculty Club, calls for ten percent pay hikes effective June 29, 1981 and July 5, 1982. The agreement also specifies improvements in pension benefits, medical coverage, vacation benefits, educational assistance, funeral leave, sick leave, a salary shoe allowance, and an institute concession on the issue of substitution.

The new contract states, "An employee temporarily assigned for one hour or more to a higher rated job shall receive the higher rate of pay." The substitution rule in the previous contract required an employee to work eight hours before receiving the higher rate of pay.

Under the new contract, employees temporarily assigned to higher positions will receive pay increases after 25 years of service, once they reach age 55. Minimum pension benefits have been increased by 11.76 percent, and past (please turn to page 2).

Effects of Reagan felt

By Kenneth Snow

Commenting on the country's new economic situation, Director of the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program Margaret MacVicar noted that "when you tell someone things are great when they are not getting worse, it tells you something about the times."

MacVicar explained that there has been a greater demand for financial aid for the year this year compared to last year, however, "as far as the resources of the funds that UROP has, they are unaffected." MacVicar mentioned that the increased demand for funding this year is not necessarily a result of Reagan's new economic policies.

In the past, there have been years when the demand for UROP funding has been as high as this year's increase could be due to many factors, such as a general increase in the appeal of the UROP program not related to the economic situation.

"We are aware of every nook and cranny where resources are available," said MacVicar. "The faculty has been outstanding from my point of view in their support... MacVicar added, "So far (fear of lost funding) might be psychological and there's no real pressure to feel."

Leonard V. Gallagher '54, Director of Student Financial Aid, noted that students at MIT did not have to worry as much as students at other schools. "Many students at some other schools depend solely on Federal support for financial aid funds. While MIT uses its own resources, as well as Federal aid. Gallagher explained that MIT did have two areas of concern. The first of these developed this summer, when funds were cut for Federal student loan programs. The second, and more pressing, was Federal funding for the Student Office, which is the same rate as inflation. "The equity level is the maximum amount of money that students are expected to contribute to their own education," Gallagher said. "We must get this program and we need to develop more, presumably private, sources (of money)." Gallagher did note that the maximum National Direct Student Loan MIT offers eligible student dropped from $1,200 last year to $900 this year.

"We have a level of commitment to students. However, that commitment involves the parents."