Communities must adapt

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I also disagree with labeling the choice to move as a sign of panic. One could just as well argue that to sit still in the face of impending doom is a sign of panic—as a rabbit will freeze in the headlights of an approaching car.

Another of Lingelbach’s puzzling claims is that the Midwest needs to suffer for the benefit of “the South” (his all-inclusive label for an area of economic growth). This is equivalent perhaps to saying that Europe is made to suffer for the benefit of the U.S. It is not surprising or unusual that businesses choose to locate themselves in areas of favorable economic conditions; it is only a “survival of the fittest” adaptation that a business or a living entity must make. This is not necessarily attractive “throw-away American capitalism” is the phrase Mr. Lingelbach used but I do not see it as peculiar to this country, or this age and time. I do not mean to suggest that Midwesterners must resign themselves to “law of the jungle” mobility at the whim of economic or sociological progress; that is not only one option. The other option, which Lingelbach only very tangentially refers to, is that Midwesterners (and everyone, for that matter) must use their ingenuity and resolve to adapt themselves and their communities to the changing, evolving environment around them. Despite the disparaging attributes Lingelbach assigns to them, Californians and Texans and Floridians have at last demonstrated this most important ability.

William G. McLaren

Staff tears signs down

To the Editor:

I was in response to Larry DeLuca’s article of October 22, DeLuca’s claim that “no one has the right to tear down or deface any institution’s posters” is inherently false. He claims that posters are torn down by elevators from the doors of 77 Mass. Ave. and he saw CRASH II posters in stairwells of building 54 and in many other walls and windows around the Institute. According to George Persiantz (the director of building services) office, any poster in the main halls posted anywhere other than on a bulletin board will be torn down. This is official Institute policy. Under these circumstances, Mr. DeLuca’s conclusion that posters were ripped down due to opposition to GAVER (as they ridiculous. I know personally that at least a portion of the “vandalism” was perpetrated by the janitorial staff.

Suzanne Kohout ’85

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