Non-resident house opens for sleeping

By Ellen L. Spero

The Non-Resident Student Association's quarters in Building W2 reopened for overnight use March 8, according to the group's chairman, Jeffrey L. Caplitz.

The MIT Safety Office, the Office of the Dean for Student Affairs and Physical Plant closed the facility Jan. 11 after Cambridge building inspectors found numerous safety and building code violations. The building reopened Feb. 1 for daytime use only.

MIT Physical Plant installed smoke detectors and fire alarms and modified other areas to meet Cambridge ordinances in the past few weeks, Caplitz said. The building presently sleeps four people — three men and one woman — in rooms adjacent to a fire escape. The association must also install a firewall on the second floor to open other rooms for overnight use, Caplitz explained. The house will sleep fourteen people after the wall is built; it housed sixteen people prior to its closing.

The Non-Resident Student Association (NRSA) had seventy members last term, but currently only about ten are members, Caplitz said. The group is circulating a survey and information sheet to off-campus undergraduate and graduate students to determine if NRSA is needed. NRSA hopes to increase its membership since the house is now open for overnight use again, he said.

NRSA members are entitled to use its kitchen, study room, lockers, showers, and overnight facilities, and to participate in its social activities and intramural teams. Membership is limited to non-resident MIT and cross-registrant students, but the group will provide a bed — if there is space — to anyone needing a place to stay for one night, he added.

MIT admits Class of '87

(Continued from page 1) have a variety of interests, be it music, athletics, or even very special talents," Richardson noted. "We want a diverse and interesting group of individuals.

The waiting list for admission includes just over 500 students. Richardson said. The Office of Admissions will inform these students whether they have been admitted by late May.

A number of applicants who are not admitted are surprised at their rejection, Richardson said. He expects the Admissions Office will receive ten to fifteen calls a day for the next two or three weeks from parents of rejected applicants.

Richardson said he wonders why MIT students to contact as many parents of rejected applicants. "I felt that I could do a good job of improving the shape of the board," he said.

The Finance Board will allocate about $60,000 to student activities next year, Samuel said, but "the need seems to be exceeding that." The board approved next year's budget Saturday and will present it to Dean for Student Affairs Shirley M. McBey after spring break.

The proposed $96,000 budget grants $51,245 for administrative expenses of the Undergraduate Association. The budget includes funding for over 20 student activities.

The board occasionally cannot meet a student group's request, Samuel said. The Student Committee on Educational Policy requested $12,000 to print its Course Evaluation Guide, but, he said, the board could only allocate $5000. "It was the only thing we could do, looking at our budget." Samuel plans to approach the MIT Corporation during the next fiscal year, in hopes of obtaining an administrative allotment of money for student activities. He plans to speak with President Paul E. Gray '54 about the issue. The motivation for the administration to become involved "has to come from ourselves gathering together in numbers," Samuel said.

The need for students to participate in the Finance Board's decisions and the need for increased awareness of the board are major concerns, Samuel said. "We are not a closed board," he stressed.

The board needs more publicity, Allison agreed. "Right now there's a lack of knowledge of what the board does outside the board," he said.

Samuel said he wants more interaction between board members and the activities they regulate, and added he hopes for increased student feedback.

Both Samuel and Allison want to establish a "liaison program" between student groups and the board, in which some board members would act as "managerial consultants" for the groups. The program has been under consideration for three years, said Samuel, and entails a board member coaching a group before it makes a presentation to the board. A liaison would answer any questions a group might have about the board's procedures, Allison added.

Samuel also said he wants to audit every student activity. Student activities spend $750,000 each year and "someone should know where all that is going," he claimed.