Coop will remain closed on Sundays

By Ellen L. Spere
Harvard Cooperative Society stores will not open on Sundays "just because the blue laws are over," according to James A. Argeros, general manager of the Coop. "We will open when it serves a purpose for the Coop to do so," Argeros said.

To meet the needs of the MIT community, the Tech Coop might open on Sundays during "important" times, such as the beginning of the academic term and commencement, Argeros continued, a policy similar to the Coop's current practice of extending its hours at the start of the term.

With the exception of such special periods, Argeros does not envision the Tech Coop generating enough business to justify the expense of opening on Sundays.

The Coop plans to open its Harvard Square store Sunday, April 17 from noon to 5:45pm on a one-time trial basis, according to Argeros. The Sunday opening would coincide with a special Patriots' Day weekend celebration for which most other Harvard Square merchants will also open on Sunday for the first time, Argeros said.

The response to the April 17 opening will determine whether the Harvard Coop will continue opening on Sundays, Argeros said.

Stores along Massachusetts Avenue and in Central Square have reacted differently to the repeal of the blue laws. Purity Supreme, Radio Shack and Hit or Miss have been open Sundays since March 27 when the repeal took effect. Other stores near MIT, including Banes Furniture World and the Bicycle Workshop, plan to open Sundays, but are unsure when they will begin.

A few stores do not plan to open, but several echoed the sentiments of Max Naggar, owner of the Cambridge Trading Company in Central Square, who said, "If everybody opens, we will have to. But right now we have no plans to do so."

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Sunshine turning to clouds and rain — Sunny today with highs between 52 and 56 degrees. Clouds will appear late this afternoon and tonight. Showers becoming likely tomorrow, with temperatures in the 40s.

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World

European leaders react to Gromyko rejection of Reagan arms plan — Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko's rejection of the United States' proposal to limit medium-range missiles is not likely to be the Soviets' last word, Western European leaders told officials in Washington this week. NATO governments had encouraged Reagan's proposal to limit American missile placement in Europe in return for Soviet reductions in Europe and Asia. West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl said he would deploy the missiles in his country in the fall if proposed Geneva arms talks fail to produce results.

Jordan and the PLO postpone negotiations with Israel — Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, and Jordan's King Hussein were unable Sunday to agree to hold a summit with Israel based on President Ronald Reagan's call for peace in the middle east. Reagan's plan calls for a self-governing Palestinian group in the West Bank, but not an independent Palestinian state. Arafat scheduled a new Arab summit where "everything will be discussed," despite Hussein's attempts to convince Arafat that Reagan's plan may be the last chance to negotiate for a return of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Nation

Railroad car spills acid, forcing 2000 to evacuate Denver — A railroad car loaded with nitric acid ruptured in a northwest Denver railroad yard Sunday, injuring 16 persons and forcing 2000 to leave their homes. At least 18,000 gallons of acid spilled from the car when it was pierced by the coupling from another car, according to Miles Sticocum of the Office of Emergency Preparedness.

Second operational Space Shuttle launched — NASA launched its newest Space Shuttle, Challenger, at 11:36m yesterday, to begin a five-day mission. Its four-man crew will deploy a communications satellite, and two astronauts will make a three-and-one-half hour spacewalk. The launch was successful despite high winds at high altitudes which could have thrown Challenger off course.

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