Spacelab crew visits MIT

By Burt S. Kaliski

Astronauts preparing at the MIT Man-Vehicle Laboratory for the Spacelab mission described last week their project, as part of Spacelab '83 held at MIT's Kreeger Auditorium and at four other colleges.

The astronauts — including Byron K. Lichtenberg of the MIT Center for Space Research — will represent the United States on various scientific fields and attempt to prove the usefulness of using science and manufacturing in space,” explained Peter H. Diamandis, B.S., national chairman of Students for the Exploration and Development of Space.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the European Space Agency will sponsor Space Lab I, scheduled to be launched Sept. 30 on Space Shuttle 9, Diamandis said.

Ull Merbold and Wubbo Ockels of the European Space Agency, Michael Lampson of University of California at Berkeley, Robert Parker, and Owen Garriott join Lichtenberg in the mission. John Young, commander of the first shuttle mission, will command the September launch, Diamandis said.

Spacelab events at MIT included speeches by William A. Lane, Aeronautics and Astronautics lecturer Philip Chapman '67, David B. S. Smith G. and Eric Drexler. MIT’s for included nine films, Diamandis said.

“We had events at the Boston Museum of Science, Harvard University, Boston University, and MIT,” he added. “We had funding from MIT, Hughes Aircraft, Honeywell, and IBM, with a total budget of $1200.

“We had a lot of free printing, we didn’t have to build many ex-
hibits, and NASA provided many of the films and videotapes,” Diamandis continued.

Professor Laurence R. Young ’71, director of the Man-Vehicle Laboratory, “was very helpful in scheduling the astronauts’ appearance.”

“About five months ago, I called together the heads of the Boston area pro-space groups and presented the idea of a group project, namely Spacelab,” he said. “The idea behind Spacelab was to educate the Boston area students about the benefits of an active space program.”

Students for the Exploration and Development of Space started at MIT in 1980, according to Diamandis. “A sister chapter was next founded at Princeton a few months afterward,” he said.

“We next had some letters printed in Omni, Astronomy, and Analog which invited students to begin chapters at other universities,” he added. “Today we have chapters in 25 universities and 6 countries, with about 1800 members.”

The group plans to attend the June 9 launch of Space Shuttle 7, he said.

$1B fin. aid cut planned

(Continued from page 1)

Student Loan Program will be cut by $900 million, although the number of recipients will increase by an estimated 300,000 and the average loan will increase from $2222 to $2434, the proposal states.

Students are not required under current guidelines to demonstrate financial need if their parents’ total annual income is less than $34,000. Under the proposed budget all students applying for Guaranteed Student Loans would have to show financial need under the proposed guidelines.

The Reagan administration has asked for a $310 million increase in funding for the College Work-Study Program. The increase would create additional jobs for 145,000 students nationwide.

Reagan's proposal states, with average student earnings estimated at $800. The federal government currently contributes 80 percent of the work-study payroll.

Reagan also proposed a $295 million increase in the budget for the Pell Grant Program, although the administration raised the expected level of student contribution.

Students are expected under the proposed changes to contribute a minimum of 40 percent of the cost of attendance, with a minimum contribution of $600.

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