Dorm proposes policy on drugs

By Joe Kilian

A policy written by Senior House housemasters, graduate tutors, and house officers using specific guidelines for handling drug infractions is now under discussion throughout the dormitory system.

Margaret J. Keyser, Senior House housemaster, said the document was formed formally by Senior House or by the Office of the Dean for Students Affairs.

Tutors and housemasters discussed the proposal at the tutors/housemasters workshop in August and have been asking for student reactions within the dormitories, Keyser said. She does not anticipate further discussion of the proposal until after the tutor/housemaster meeting in October.

"They will probably get more feedback then and decide how they're going to discuss it with the proposal," she explained. Tutors who disagree with the policy may be asked to formulate alternatives in writing, Keyser said.

Annaees for Dean for Students Affairs Robert A. Shrewsby said, "At this point in time, there isn't any firm uniform policy as to what happens to each individual in any house." Presentations would be subject to the same policies as dormitories, he added.

The proposed system for handling drug infraction would implement a "two-warning policy." Under the policy, if a tutor, housemaster, house manager, or other MIT employee observed someone selling the housemasters about it. The student would then be handled within the house. Housemasters would react subseqently drug use to the Dean's Office.

A chief soothing assumption of this policy is that it takes advantage of the drugs of the "lone wolf" said Nancy Daris, a Senior House tutor. He said this as a way of saying that students don't have a clear picture of what options tutors, housemasters, or the Dean's Office, and other dormitory services have in dealing with drug infraction.

A tutor will be "leni of a peacemaker" if he doesn't have to make decrion and make a decision quickly. Keyser agreed, saying the proposed system would give tutors, "an impartial position which is necessary for the tutor," she said (Please turn to page 9).

The Harvard Bridge will be closed for reconstruction.

By Tony Zamparutti

(Story by: This is the final of a two-part series on the Harvard Bridge.)

The Metropolitan District Commission (MDC) will rebuild the Harvard Bridge because of cracks found in key structural elements last year, but construction will probably not begin until the spring of 1986, according to David Lenhardt, a senior engineer for the agency.

Investigations discovered cracks in steel girders that hold part of the bridge's superstructure. After the discovery, the MDC closed the entire lane of the bridge and banned trucks and buses from it.

The collapse of a bridge on In- stance 81 in Greenwise, Conn., an accident which killed three people, prompted the inspection. The bridge's structural design was similar to that of the Harvard Bridge.

E. Lionel Pavlo Engineering Company of Boston has completed a preliminary design for the new structure. The com- pany will also do the final design work on the bridge, an undertaking which should be finished in just over a year, according to Ralph Hendrickson, assistant bridge engi- neer for the Massachusetts Department of Public Works (DPW).

The MDC owns the Harvard Bridge, but the DPW is exercising the construction work. The MDC is undertaking two efforts in parallel for the recon- struction of the 1006-foot Har- vard Bridge — more commonly measured in Smoots. "Right now, they are in the process of doing an environmental impact state- ments," Hendrickson said.

In addition, a contractor is making an underwater inspection of the bridge's piers, Hendrick- son said. The underwater inspection is testing "a few of the piers that are in question" to ensure they do not need major repairs, Hen- drickson said.

The environmental impact statement will help determine whether or not the bridge will be entirely closed in vehicles during construction.

Lenhardt said, "The MDC is backing a concept of maintaining foot traffic but closing the structure down to vehicle traffic." A second-year senior said, "Keep the con- trols of traffic open on the Har- vard Bridge, he said.

Hendrickson said the prelimi- nary design for the new bridge would probably determine closing all four traffic lanes during con- struction.

Lenhardt estimated that the bridge could be reconstructed in a year and a half using the first method.

The preliminary estimates for construction are about 312 mil- lion, assuming only the super- structure needs to be replaced, he said. About 80 percent of con- struction funds would come from the federal government, a DPW official noted.

When the work is completed, the Harvard Bridge should look much the same as before, "The MDC's main criterion is trying to preserve as much of the old char- acteristics of the bridge as possible," Lenhardt said.

The bridge will have four lanes of traffic, two lanes of foot traffic, and the pedestrian walk will only have seven lanes of traffic, he said.

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