Students petition against Star Wars

By Donald Yue

The MIT Disarmament Study Group (DSSG) has collected over 400 signatures from students who pledged not to participate in Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) research, according to Chris Lins '87, DSSG president.

Members of MIT Student Pugwash and the DSSG initiated the student signatures at a booth in Lobby 10. Some students and faculty are currently circulating petitions to precipitate a plan restricting SDI research Funds and to show that there is opposition to the program, Lins explained.

The drive at MIT was actually sponsored by the MIT Students Against SDI, although a large number of people involved in the drive are members of the DSSG.

"The problem is that (SDI) is misguided," said Professor of Physics Avram Bornstein, faculty chairman of the DSSG. "The only counter to a defense is an increased attack." The program intended to protect us could lead to a Russian buildup. That's not a very wise move.

Lins also explained that "the DSSG exists to promote discussion, education and understanding of the nuclear arms issue on campus." (Please turn to page 16)

Gray talks of MIT experience

By Jim Brody

MIT must preserve its intellectual freedom, said President Paul Gray '54 at a lecture Thursday night. "The problem is that (SDI)I is misguided," said Professor of Physics with grey hair.

He focused the faculty's alarm about Accuracy in Academia, a national right-wing group that recruits students to monitor professors expressing liberal views in class. Gray said he did not know whether Accuracy in Academia is active at MIT.

The president also evaluated some of the problems he had in the 1970's. There are more women students and faculty members today at MIT than there were five years ago, but still not enough, he said.

Gray also discussed a new capital campaign to increase MIT's endowment, which will begin within 18 months. The endowment... (Please turn to page 16)

Majors show decline in EECS

By Katie Schreiber

Some sophomores have defected to philosophy, but the student petition against Star Wars may have helped the number of sophomores in the School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (EECS). The number of sophomores in that school, according to the Registrar's Office, is 135 people.

The number of sophomores in the School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (EECS) has dropped by 25 percent over the past year. Last year, there were 316 sophomores, but this year, according to the Registrar's Office, there are 231 sophomores.

The Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and Financial Aid decided last spring to reduce the size of its incoming classes by 25 percent last year. A large number of sophomores in the School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (EECS) have dropped this year.

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Black students hold conference

By Thomas T. Huang and Craig Jungwirth

The 13th annual MIT Black Students' Conference on Science and Technology examined "The MIT Experience" last weekend. Two major addresses and a career showcase highlighted the event, but the conference's plenary session and three workshops were sparsely attended.

"The number of students who attended each workshop ranged from two to five, not including company representatives or panelists. In his lunchbox speech, Professor James H. Williams Jr. '67 warned, "The conference has atrophied. It has decayed. And you're stupid if you don't want to hear that, you see, you need to be told that if it's the..." (Please turn to page 16)

Williams gives own view

By Craig Jungwirth

Professor of Mechanical Engineering James H. Williams Jr. '67 warned black students (that many of them are being trained to mis- ervice) in a 1967 speech, "if you don't want to hear that, you see, you need to be told that if it's the..." (Please turn to page 16)

Federal government's attempt to limit university research and to restrict publication of research papers, however, is "shameful," said Williams.

Williams also recommended that MIT students wanted an accurate statement of MIT's role in SDI research. "There is grotesque ignorance in the SDI literature," said Williams. "We are trying to bring hard facts..." (Please turn to page 17)