The MIT residence service, ARA, has chosen to "bring standards up across the board," said one student, who noted that ARA takes over food service
New management promises many improvements

By Ben Z. Stenger

ARA's new manager of food service operations, ARA Services, plans next term to implement an "ambitious" program which will include pizza delivery, an improved dining system, and renovation of the main dining hall and Portia facilities. Lauterer noted that ARA is investing in marketing resources and experience to turn a profit by the end of its first term.

"We're off and marching," said John Lauterer, ARA district manager in charge of MIT operations. ARA has targeted July 28 as the final payroll switchover date for food workers, at which time ARA will effectively be in control of dining service. Lauter-

Ford said that ARA faced a choice of increasing services to attract more customers versus cutting corners to reduce costs.

"I'm very disturbed that he's leaving," said Undergraduate Admissions Director Braden. "It's not a question of us being able to fill or staff the positions, but it is a question of us maintaining the same spirit of dynamism that has characterized Admissions Office to treat the Academic Development will be equal in rank to the MIT registrar for student affairs position held by Shirley M. McBay. He will have eight assistant dean staff working below him.

Sherwood was assistant dean of residence until 1982 when the year's freshman class is slightly above last year's 8.6 percent. The Class of 1990 will include 46 blacks, 18 Puerto Ricans, 22 Hispanics, and 4 Native Americans, Behnke said.

Lauterer said the dining hall was marked by severe declines in minority enrollment, especially among blacks. Fewer black freshmen entered in 1985-86 than in any year in the past decade. Last October, Behnke called this figure, which was a decrease in spite of startup costs, "a very disturbing development." ARA will do "everything possible to help bring blacks back," Lauterer said.

It was noted that the large increase was due to "a strong pool," the Admissions Office working harder on making sure the credentials were complete, and the Financial Aid Office completing packages sooner and filling them more thoroughly, Sherwood said.

The number of entering freshmen is significantly lower than in the previous year, when 1087 students were admitted. It was a decrease of 6.9 percent from last year's total of 1165.

The Residence/Orientation (R/O) week activities included a picnic. "Itza Pizza," an ARA creation which has become the 16th largest pizza chain in the United States, will have branches at Walker and West House. The stores, which sell calzones and other ARA creations, will also deliver. The new validated credit card system will enable people to order pizza and convenience store goods by using their credit cards.

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