opinion

Leaders of oppressed deserve prize

To the Editor:

Once again, columnist K.J. Saeger has managed to insult several groups with a single stroke of his pen ("Peace prize rewards an effort," Oct. 20). His remark about previous recipients of the Nobel Peace Prize who "accomplished nothing," Bishop Desmond Tutu and Lech Walesa in particular, was an attacks against displacement, no matter what the odds are. Walesa, along with slain priest Jerzy Popieluszko, united the Polish people in their struggle against their government. This was no small accomplishment, considering the myriad of factors which weighed against them. But I guess Saeger is right — after all, Poland is still a satellite of the Soviet Union, the people are still lining up for hours in food lines, and marital law can be imposed at any time. Not even a glimmer of accomplishment.

Wrong. After the banning of Solidarity in December 1981, the people struggling against the communist regime did not just say "Well, it's been fun fighting with you, see you in the bread line." The movement went underground, and the illegality of their actions did not (and still doesn't) even come into consideration as they distribute "hand-made" literature, such as texts of Father Popieluszko's homilies, almost illegible because the carbon paper between the fourth and fifth pages is so overstamped that one has to use and the keys on the ancient typewriter just don't punch the punch they used to...

And my ass in Warsaw tells me the momentum is gaining slowly but surely. She should know — she spent six months in prison for committing "illegality against the state," and as soon as she got out of prison she went right back to her "subversive" activities. The thought of incarcerations is even more meaningless to her now, since she has experienced the suffering on both sides of the cell wall and would gladly return to prison rather than stop fighting for what she knows is right.

The spirit of oppressed people cannot be broken under the tyranny of martial law, or apartheid, or war; if Lech Walesa, who personified the Solidarity movement, is not deserving of the Nobel Peace Prize, then who is? Perhaps Ronald Reagan, for bringing his own special kind of peace to the Persian Gulf, or Nicaragua, or Grenada? I'm sure K.J. Saeger would find that selection justified.

Alex Grabianski '88

Homeless take stand against displacement

To the Editor:

"Test city" was a protest held by Cambridgeport residents against the expansion of MIT into community lands. [Simple] protests seek more housing. Oct. 20. The residents of Cambridgeport cited their recent activities on the morning of Sunday, Oct. 18. After this, a group of homeless people who call themselves "the homeless and to rally support for action in the city government. Their talents to actively combat displacement of the homeless.

First Boston, a special bracket investment banking firm, headquartered in New York, will be recruiting for its financial analyst program. Positions are available in the Investment Banking, Corporate Finance, Mergers and Acquisitions, Real Estate and Mortgage Finance Departments. All Seniors are cordially invited to attend a presentation and informal reception.

Presentation/Reception:
Thursday, November 5, 1987
Room 8-105
7:00 P.M.

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