The scene of Friday's chemical accident.

ODSA screens graduate residents

By Robert Adams

The Office of the Dean for Student Affairs initiated a new screening process for graduate residents in undergraduate dormitories this past year. Applicants were required to answer questions about hypothetical situations involving harassment and drinking or a situation involving racial harassment, and they were told that they could answer however they wanted, "rather, the interviewers would make judgments about the applicant's personality, rather than rephrase questions in order to get the applicant to answer," said Sharon Weber '88, coordinator of New House II interviews.

By Maurice Rouser

The new graduate dormitory will be ready by November of 1989, according to Paul F. Barrett, Director of Physical Planning. The dormitory — which will be located in the building at 143 Albemarle Street, near the clutch reactor and the Plasma Fusion Center — will house approximately 200 students. The estimated cost of rebuilding the building will be $14 million, Barrett said.

Pass/fail changes are debated at CFYP forum

By David P. Hamilton

Even with freshen year pass/fail grading, "it's easy for students to develop an antagonistic relation with MIT — really desensitizes," said Sean Murphy '91, one of nearly forty students attending a forum held yesterday evening.

Murphy added that eliminating second term pass/fail would be "fatal" to students, chances to develop a positive attitude toward the Institute and their own work.

This forum was the second held at CFYP in order to obtain student reaction to the committee's plans to revise the first year program. The committee has released a draft of a report it is preparing for the Committee on the Undergraduate Program.

Professor Kenneth R. Mann, chairman of the CFYP, briefly summarized the committee's tentative proposal, increasing academic flexibility by emphasizing alternate scheduling of core curricula, and eliminating second term pass/fail in favor of allowing students to take one course each term on pass/no-credit.

Some students expressed negative opinions about the idea of eliminating pass/fail.

"It is a positive learning step," said Beth Born '90, of the concept. "It is also a step of having some kind of a benefit from every course." Born '90 added that there should be an explanation of why the change would be beneficial.

But many students expressed negative reactions to the idea of eliminating pass/fail.

"I think that there was simply a misunderstanding between the ODSA and the undergraduates about those applications," said Tewhey. "We told them that there would be a preliminary screening based on the applications, but that none of these applications would be withdrawn because there were still some deliberations among the reviewers about those applicators. Tewhey said. Some or all of those eight tutor candidates were unaware that their applications had been delayed.

Housemasters only became aware of the new process when New House housemaster Professors David Butler noticed the students were not receiving the application of a student for which he had been a reference.

Barrett, chairman of the housemasters' committee, obtained a list of eight applicants whose names had been withheld and provided his other students with the applications. Rossi directed the students who were involved in getting new graduate residents, according to Tewhey.

Prospective graduate residents were given different hypothetical scenarios, such as a situation in which undergraduates students are drinking at a situation involving racial harassment, and they were asked to say what they would do in each situation, be continue. The interviews were conducted by four interviewers, two from ODSA, and groups of several applicants, Tewhey said.

"The people who put forth trouble — one said under- graduate students were afraid of none of his business, or one who rejected the possibility that there could be racial harassment on the campus."

Some applications held back

After these interviews, accepted applicants were forwarded to the three undergraduate dormitories.

Temple City group now housed

Six members of the "Temple City" homeless group have found a permanent home — nearly half a year after the Temple City protest began.

Last week, the group moved into a four-bedroom apartment on land owned by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The apartment is being provided temporarily by Kendall Alex Leshnik through an arrangement with the Institute.

By Michael Gojer

Three people were injured Friday night in a Building 6 chemistry laboratory when a graduate student poured alcohol into a receptor containing acid waste — causing an explosion that shut down the vessel and produced a burst of fire, according to Robert Dilorio of the MIT News Office.

Gai Busan G and Veronica C. Simmons, a skiing chemistry department, were treated for minor burns Friday night along with three Campus Police officers, though noise were hospitalized, according to Dilorio.

The accident took place in a laboratory of Professor Richard Schrock around 10:45 pm Friday night. Schrock declined to comment on the accident.

The lab was sealed off for Friday night after the accident, but Dilorio said that there was no obvious contamination or structural damage.

But the dormitory is still a controversial issue, according to Director of Planning O. Robert Simha. Simha, through his secretary, declined to comment further. The mix of unit sizes for the apartment complex has been debated, according to Senior Vice President William R. Dickinson '46, although the program must still be checked for feasibility with the Massachusetts Office of Administration and the decision not to include efficiency units in the program may be decided, according to Jeff Meredith '81, senior advisor to the board.

The building is presently being leased to several companies which will lease in August, according to Jeff Meredith '81, senior advisor to the board. New House II interviews will begin in September.

The structure is presently seeking a housing permit, according to Schrock, an "Industrial B" zone, and expects to obtain a permit in the next few months, Dickson said.

Graduate dormitory ready in 1989

By Maurice Rouser

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MIT takes rent control board deal

By Niraj S. Desai

MIT agreed last week to conditions set by the Cambridge Rent Control Board for clearing five houses and two multi-room apartments on a proposed site of a 350-room hotel and conference center at the corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Harvard Street. The $250 million University Park development.

The houses, which are on Blanche and Green Streets, contain rent-controlled apartments, four of which are currently occupied. Under the agreement, MIT will release two dozen rent-controlled units in them. It will demolish the other three houses and replace them by transferring rent-control restrictions to six apartments on Massachusetts Avenue that are presently unregulated. In addition, the Institute will be required to build six new rent-controlled apartments on the corner of Brookline and Pacific Streets.

In its original petition for a permit to remove the houses from the rental market, MIT had offered to provide 14 new rent-controlled apartments and six multi-room apartments in two new buildings. The board ruled on March 16 that it would only grant a removal permit if MIT could promise to make the market-rate units available.

Mark R. Kordos

Mark R. Kordos '89 died last Friday when he jumped off the 13th floor of MacGregor House. Kordos, 18 years old, came from Morristown, N. J., and was majoring in computer science. In addition to being a straight-A student, Kordos had been active in the Musical Theatre Guild, playing lead roles in two productions.

Chief of Campus Police Anne P. Glavin said the suicide occurred at about 6:30 pm. Kordos was pronounced dead at Massachusetts General Hospital at 8:10 pm. The death certificate reported the cause of death as a massive injury to the head.

Robert M. Randolph, associate dean of student affairs and director of the Student Assistance Services, described Kordos as someone who set very high goals. "He was quite demanding and a perfectionist," Randolph said. In addition, he is to discriminate between the students abuse second term pass/fail.

The incident was still being investigated by the Safety Office in consultation with the Cambridge Police Department.

That said all that could be done to prevent mistakes like the one that occurred Friday was to make sure that new receipt recipients were clearly labeled. He noted that when people work long hours, fatigue can bring on mistakes.

(Plase turn to page 14)