Students Compete to Be Ugliest Man

By Deena S. Disraellyn

Students began casting their votes for the Ugliest Man on Campus yesterday in Lobby 10. Alpha Phi Omega, MIT's service fraternity, sponsors the annual contest to raise money for charity.

Students vote for the candidate of their choice in many times as they want, or until they run out of change—each vote costs a penny. Candidates run for the title of UMOC, as well as other prizes, which include gift certificates. Despite the contest's title, women can compete as well.

All the money raised by the UMOC contest will be donated to a charity chosen by the winner. This living group's opportunity to support their particular philanthropic organization, if they have one. In the past, the money raised has been given to a charity designated by APO. Last year the money was given to City Year, a community service group.

"I think that it's the most important fund-raiser we have during the year. It's important to me to get the student body here at MIT involved, and it's fun. I mean, the point of UMOC is not to put anyone down; the point is to raise money and have fun doing it," said UMOC Project Chair Crystal K. Reul '94.

"A kind of cool thing is people can write in candidates who they think are particularly ugly, either physically or otherwise. Ugliness is not just skin-deep," Reul said. Write-in candidates who receive 200 votes (earn $2.00) are asked to run, Reul explained.

This year's candidates

As of yesterday, the only declared candidate was Hamoud A. Hamoudi '93. Hamoudi, a Random Hall resident, hopes to continue a budding dormitory tradition: in the past four years, Random Hall's candidate was Haider A. Hamoudi '93. Hamoudi, a Random Hall resident, hopes to continue a budding dormitory tradition: in the past four years, Random Hall's candidates have won UMOC three times.

Jeanne A. Thienprasit '95, another Random resident, intends to change to vote for Hamoudi yesterday. "He's our house president, and he deserves to win. I mean, he's fully qualified," she said.

Other soon-to-be candidates have not yet picked up their registration forms, but intend to run.

"I've run for UMOC every year I've been here, and I figured why stop now," said Mark S. Rouscup '94, who will be participating in the contest for the third time. Rouscup admitted he was ugly and added, "Even my girlfriend says I'm ugly."

Rouscup ran for UMOC his freshman year because his friends in Germany House told him to. His sophomore year he ran as a group with Thomas C. Bruno '94 and Christopher M. Montgomery '92. They called themselves "The Berens."

"It was named after a bamboo tree that one of us had," he said. Rouscup hopes to win at least once before he completes his undergraduate years at MIT. "I should get some

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