Third Housing Lottery Needed

By Eric Richard

More than half of the approximately 100 students who were deferred to the second lottery for permanent housing assignments were told yesterday that they would have to wait at least until Friday for the results of a third round in order to get permanent housing.

In addition to the delay in placing students, those who received their permanent housing assignments in the second round lottery yesterday were instructed to wait until this afternoon to move out of their temporary housing in order to ease the transition, according to Assistant Director for Residence and Campus Activities Andrew M. Eisenmann.

“After placing as many freshmen as possible, under the constraint of a 165-room breaking limit, there were still 50 to 60 students who remained unassigned after the second round lottery, according to Andrew C. Smith, dean for undergraduate education and student affairs.

Eisenmann said that the number of students without permanent assignments reflected the difficulty of independent living group pledges as of 2:45 p.m. yesterday. He added that more pledges had been received since.

Smith explained that people are being asked to wait to move into their permanent housing, because more pledges are expected by tomorrow afternoon.

For the time being, new students still living in temporary housing are expected to attend the in-house rush of the dormitory that they put down as their top choice, even though they are not guaranteed to be placed in that dormitory. “This certainly adds complications to in-house rush,” Smith said, “but I don’t see a way around it.”

In-house rush may be delayed

Smith also mentioned the possibility of canceling each of the dormitory rush chairs and asking them to delay in-house selections until the present situation could be resolved.

However, Smith explained that

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GSC Hosts Orientation Events

By Deena S. DiSalle

GSC Reports

In parallel with the undergraduate Residence and Orientation Week, the Graduate Student Council is hosting a graduate student orientation week. Events include information sessions, trips, and tours. Orientation week started on Tuesday, and it will continue until Friday.

“One of the big things we try to do once the graduate students get here, ...to build a sense of community,” said GSC President Caryl B. Brown. G. The GSC wants to ensure, very energetic, and very active R/O, he added.

“The other main goals for the GSC orientation are to make graduate students more aware of MIT through seminars and information sessions, and to ‘try to convince people that the GSC is a worthwhile organization,” Brown said.

The graduate student orientation is staffed almost entirely by volunteers, a “100 percent unaccompanied” event, as Brown said. Graduate students also have responsibilities in their laboratories, and they are “trying to instill a sense of community,” from their advisers to volunteers.

“Overall, there are fewer people doing fewer things for more people than in undergraduates,” Brown said.

“This year, we have very nice people, very energetic, and very organized,” said administrative assistant and GSC staff member Ying Ying Li G.

“I’m extremely pleased with the effort everyone has put in,” Brown said. “It’s not a one-man job.”

The week’s itinerary

This year’s orientation is very similar to last year’s. New this year, however, are the daily campus walking tours and this evening’s Night on the Town tour.

All this week, students can pick up information at the GSC booth in Lobby 10. The information includes MBTA schedules, explanations of GSC activities, and the MIT Express. The MIT Express contains lists of commonly used phone numbers, addresses to meet new friends, information about the community. “This is a place which involves human beings, people with emotions, people with real commitment and dedication,” he said. “I hope you will recall that we are all human beings and treat each other with respect and civility.”

Yesterday, the GSC sponsored the MIT Fair in Lobby 13. Representatives from MIT Residence and Campus Activities, Campus Police, and the Registrar’s office talked with students about the resources available to them and their installations.

Over the summer, graduate students also received an orientation.

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New Sorority Will Rush Next Week

By Hyun Soo Kim

SIP House, Page 7

A new local sorority, Sigma Iota Phi, will hold its rush starting Sunday. According to the sorority’s statement of purpose, seven MIT women founded SIP last spring to cultivate lasting friendships and to develop moral and ethical values.

Rush will begin Sunday and will continue through Tuesday night.

“We formed the sorority because some of us wanted to be part of a Greek life but we didn’t find what we were looking for in the existing sororities,” said SIP historian Julia Khodkar ’96.

“We come from different backgrounds, but all of us who started this sorority were Jewish, so that was something we all shared,” she said. Opaline J. Segal ’96, vice president of SIP, added that all women students are welcome to join the sorority.

“Total membership we think would be 14 to 17 women,” Segal said. “We only have 7 sisters so far, to rushing too many women would be overwhelming.”

Segal added that new members will be able to hold leadership positions in the sorority. “I’ll be able to shape the direction of the sorority, and we’ll give freshmen the chance to be very involved,” she said.

SIP recognized last March

SIP was recognized as a local sorority and as an associate member of Panhellenic in March 1993.

SIP could not rush with the other sororities because, according to Panhellenic rules, associate members can only rush after the other sororities. However, SIP scanned an information table during Panhellenic rush.

“We are very excited about rush. There are a lot of women who have shown interest. I think because we are small right now, our rush will be informal and laid-back,” Segal said.

SIP will have a mocktail party in Private Dining Room 1 in the Student Center on Sunday, and a lunch in Boston and a picnic are scheduled for Monday and Tuesday respectively.

Dates are $50 per semester and $150 in the pledge semester.

Speakers Offer Fresh Advice at Convocation

By Jeremy Hylton

Gianinno Hall, Page 7

Giving the Class of 1997 its second dose of welcomes and advice, Provost Mark S. Wrighton and a group of 14 sophomores spoke to the freshmen yesterday at the Provost’s Convocation in Kresge Auditorium.

The speakers focused on surviving and succeeding academically at MIT. Three sophomores, Marlon D. Abayan ’98, Joel J. Dawson ’96, and Wendy K. Silverberg ’96, spoke briefly about their experiences during freshman year, and remarks from 11 other students were played over the public address system.

Wrighton focused on the core General Institute Requirements, often taken during freshmen year, and what new students can expect from them. “Today you begin the heart of your MIT experience: your academic agenda,” he said.

Wrighton also encouraged new students to remember their role in the community. “This is a place which involves human beings, people with emotions, people with real commitment and dedication,” he said. “I hope you will recall that we are all human beings and treat each other with respect and civility.”

Abayan, a native of the Philippines, began by describing the difficulties of adjusting to the culture and language in the United States. He also stressed the importance of getting involved in the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program.

For Abayan, freshmen year provided some moments of academic stress because he was taking Physics 8.02 (20) without enough vector calculus experience. His advice to freshmen was, “Don’t take [convocation, Page 7]