Clifford G. Shull Wins Physics Nobel Prize

By Daniel C. Stevenson

Professor Emeritus of Physics Clifford G. Shull will share this year’s Nobel Prize in physics for his development of neutron scattering techniques to analyze condensed matter.

The $930,000 award was announced by the Swedish Academy of Sciences in Stockholm, Sweden on Wednesday. Shull, 79, will share the prize with Bertram N. Brockhouse of McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario. Shull is the fourth member of the MIT physics faculty to win the Nobel.

“It was very exciting to be honored in this fashion,” Shull said. “I am very surprised.”

The neutron scattering techniques developed by Shull and his colleagues are “tools for learning about materials,” Shull said at a press conference on Wednesday. Using these techniques scientists can find “very basic information that determines the physical properties of a material.”

In simple terms, Clifford G. Shull has helped answer the question of where atoms ‘are,’ and Bertram N. Brockhouse the question of what atoms ‘do,’” according to the Nobel citation. Shull received “a very, very well deserved prizes,” said Professor of Physics and Department Chair Emeritus David M. LaMacchia.

Shull received a phone call at 5:30 a.m. Wednesday from the secretary of the Swedish Academy of Sciences informing him of the award, he said. “I was surprised” to receive the call, he said.

Work done 45 years ago

Shull’s most important work was done at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee from 1946-51, said Robert J. Birgeneau, dean of the school of science. At Oak Ridge Shull and his colleague, the late Ernest Wollan, “systematically investigated the fundamental principles of elastic neutron scattering, thus providing the groundwork for this type of research,” Birgeneau said.

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City Police Arrest Suspected ‘Baybank Bandit’

By Ramy Arnaout

The Cambridge Police apprehended a man Tuesday evening believed to be the “Baybank bandit,” according to Frank Pasquarello, public information officer for the Cambridge Police.

The suspect, Willy Dorch, is accused of robbing six people, including two MIT students, at gaspump at automated teller machines on the edges of campus and near independent living groups, Pasquarello said.

In one of the crimes the robber made a victim walk from Cambridge to Boston across the Harvard Bridge to get money from a machine, Pasquarello said. Dorch is also a suspect for crimes in New Hampshire, he said.

Erik D. Kupferberg, 26, was robbed on Sept. 23 at the Baybank ATM at 226 Main St. in Kendall Square. The robber followed Kupferberg out of the ATM lobby into the Sloan School parking lot and then showed him a gun, Kupferberg said. The robber escorted Kupferberg back to the ATM and had him withdraw the limit of $500.

Undergraduate is the latest victim

Joel P. Johnson, 98, the latest victim, was approached last Friday morning as he left the Pi Lambda Phi fraternity house on 450 Beacon St. The robber approached Johnson and asked him if he was a college student.

“He was a pretty friendly guy at first,” Johnson said, but when Johnson tried to walk away, the robber displayed a gun. “He asked me if I was going to cooperate,” Johnson said. “I said yes.”

The robber told Johnson that because he was a college student, he had a lot of money, Johnson said, “He wasn’t really in a sane state of mind.”

The robber walked Johnson to the Quality Mart ATM on the corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Beacon Street and had him withdraw the limit of $500, Johnson said. After handing the money to the robber, Johnson left the store, walked across the Harvard Bridge to MIT, and reported the incident to the Campus Police, Johnson said.

The Quality Mart had a video surveillance camera, Johnson said. The robber turned around in front of the camera and presented a clear picture, which helped the police to identify the suspect, Johnson said.

Bail hearing today

Dorch was arrested at approximately 6 p.m. Tuesday while breaking into a house on Bryant Street in Cambridge, Pasquarello said.

When the police arrived on the scene of the house break, the suspect “ran out the door and around the corner and was apprehended in front of a house,” Pasquarello said.

The arrest occurred simultaneously with the police search for a similar suspect in White Plains, N.Y., Pasquarello said.

Dorch, a 25-year-old Whitestone, N.Y., resident, was charged with armed robbery, civil right violations, armed kidnapping, assault and larceny.

A bail hearing is scheduled for Wednesday at 3:30 p.m.

Robber, Page 11

UAC Meeting Outlines New Members’ Duties

By Ramy Arnaout

The first Undergraduate Association Council meeting of the term took place Wednesday night.

The purpose of the first meeting was to describe how the UAC operates to its newest members, said UA executive Vijay P. Sankaran. Nearly 20 of the 30 Council members and others attending the meeting were freshmen, he said.

“We have a lot of freshmen, which is really great if we can keep it going,” Sankaran said. He called the freshman’s interest in the UAC a bonus that would “get fresh ideas and fresh voices” into student government.

The meeting served as an orientation session, informing the attenders of their powers and responsibilities as new members, Sankaran said. Chief among these duties is attendance at weekly UAC meetings, he said.

UA members should also attend meetings at their living groups, so they are familiar with student issues that should be brought to the Council’s attention, he said.

The next item on the agenda was the description of the rules of the Floor Leader, the Vice Chair, and the Executive Committee member, which are three UAC positions that will come up for election at next Wednesday’s meeting. All Council members are eligible to run for these offices.

Members ready for responsibility

The special emphasis Sankaran placed on responsibility did not discourage the Council’s newest members.

“I’m really excited about the UAC, Page 15

Lawyers File Pre-Trial Motion To Dismiss LaMacchia Case

By Sarah Y. Kelghtley

The counsel for David M. LaMacchia ’95 filed a pre-trial motion two weeks ago to dismiss the federal government’s case against him. The motion bases its arguments on an incorrect use of the wire fraud law by the government’s attorneys.

The pre-trial motion could get LaMacchia’s attorneys are confident that it could get the case dismissed. "I believe that David has a very good chance that his motion to dismiss will succeed," said Harvey A. Silverglate, one of LaMacchia’s attorneys.

LaMacchia was indicted on a charge of conspiring to commit wire fraud and conspiracy. The case was filed in April 1994.

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UAC members should also attend meetings at their living groups, so they are familiar with student issues that should be brought to the Council’s attention, he said.

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