**MIT's Oldest and Largest Newspaper**

**Volume 114, Number 51**

**Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139**

**Tuesday, October 25, 1994**

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**Jerome Wiesner, 13th President, Is Dead at 79**

**Was Science Adviser for JFK**

By Jeremy Hylton

**Chairman**

Jerome B. Wiesner, 13th president of MIT and science adviser to President John F. Kennedy, died late Friday night at his home in Watertown. He was 79.

Wiesner had been ill for several months with an unspecified illness and died of heart failure, according to the MIT News Office. A private memorial service was held Sunday, and an MIT service will be held at a later date.

Wiesner was inaugurated as president on July 1, 1971, and held the post until June 30, 1980, when he retired and became a life member of the Corporation. During his career, he also served as provost, dean of the School of Science, head of the Department of Electrical Engineering, and director of the Research Laboratory of Electronics.

Wiesner was a leader in the development of public policies regarding science and technology over the last 35 years. He worked with Kennedy during his election campaign in 1960, and was named special assistant to the president for science and technology in February 1961.

At MIT, Wiesner was a strong proponent of interdisciplinary research programs and of the arts. He played an instrumental role in expanding research and teaching programs in the humanities, arts, and social sciences.

He was one of the founders of the Media Laboratory, housed in the building that bears his name.

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**MITES Controversy Attracts National Media Attention**

**By Stacey E. Blau**

The experiences of a Washington D.C. high school senior in an MIT summer program for minority students has enveloped the program in controversy with racial overtones, gaining attention in the national media.

Cedric Jennings, who is African American and lives in a poor and drug-ridden section of the city, attended the Minority Introduction to Engineering and Science program last summer.

MITES is a rigorous program that crams into six weeks what MIT freshmen go through in one semester, said Professor of Aeronautics and Astrophysics Leon Trilling, who is the academic adviser to the program. Students take classes in calculus, chemistry, physics, robotics, and writing, he said.

Trilling met with Jennings and other students toward the end of the program to advise them about college plans, in particular about applying to MIT. Trilling advised Jennings that his chances of admission to MIT were not good, and he should consider applying elsewhere, Trilling said.

Jennings charged that Trilling's remarks were racist and one of several articles about Jennings in The Wall Street Journal suggested that MITES catered to privileged minorities, prompting a response from President Charles M. Vest.

Jennings' life and experiences at MITES were chronicled in the articles and on a segment on a segment of the ABC television magazine Nightline on Oct. 6.

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**Roadkill Buffet, MIT's improvisational comedy group, performs in 10-250 last Friday night.**

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**EECS Building Could Replace Bldg. 20**

By Christopher L. Pulling

First in a two-part series about planning, proposals involving academic, residential, and support buildings.

The completion of the new biology building has set the stage for the next phase of campus development of the main academic buildings, according to O. Robert Simcha M.B.E. 52, member of the planning team.

"MIT buildings are constantly being recycled and updated with current technological and architectural trends," Simcha said. This recycling includes both new building projects and renovations of the exterior and interior of older buildings, he said.

The MIT educational philosophy must encourage communication between the disciplines, Simcha said. "We must be open to encourage communication between students from different parts of the academic community in order to stimulate the exchange of ideas," he said.

At last, EECS to have new life.

The old biology buildings from the 1950s (buildings 16 and 50) will be replaced beginning in 1995 in order to accommodate advanced technologies and services currently housed in building 20, or what Simcha called "old world" non-MIT proprietary buildings.

The Artificial Intelligence Laboratory and the Laboratory for Computer Science will move out of their digs in the Stata Center to make way for a new building on the current site of Building 50. Simcha said.

"Even though building 20 has historical significance for the alumni war effort and the development of table technology, it is not a battlefield," Simcha said. "It is a battlefield in the development of our technology and services."