

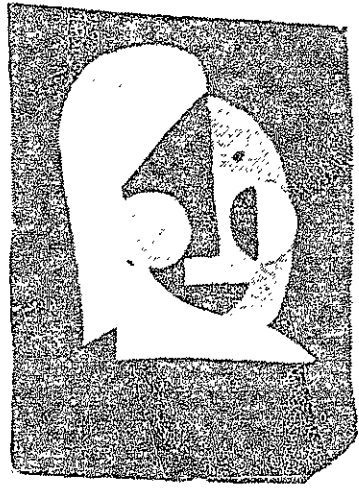
The Tech

VOLUME 93, NUMBER 2

MIT, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1973

FIVE CENTS



Marvel Comics cartoonists helped TA's brighten the walls in the 20.02 lab with murals. Photo by Dave Tenenbaum

New 20.02 biology lab highlights research

A new lab in Course XX, 20.02 Laboratory in Applied Biology, is being offered to give students an insight into research-type work in biology and to "escape from cookbook and project labs" according to organizer, Research Assistant William Thilly.

The lab was organized and first offered last year to provide an alternative to other biology labs offered at the Institute. "What this lab really does is prepare students for UROP or other research," said Thilly. "We try to instill a level of competence in our students which will allow them to participate in regular research."

Organization of the lab is along the lines of several small teams working on separate parts of the same problem. The teams meet to compare answers and try to thrash out solutions to the problem. "We'd like to have about 30 students taking the course, working in teams of three or four on, for example, degeneration of the liver in

rats," Thilly explained. "Each team would try out different theories, doing their own surgery on the animals, and then the whole group would meet to discuss their experiments."

The lab has very unusual quarters to work in; one of the Teaching Assistants, George Plotkin, decorated the walls of the laboratory with murals illustrating the text. "George has some friends who do cartoon work for Marvel Comics," Thilly explained. "They helped illustrate the walls with some of the Marvel characters."

Thilly expressed surprise at the lab's low enrollment this term. "We still have over ten spaces available in the course," he said. He added that the lab was accepted for the Institute lab requirement and for lab credit in Courses VII-A and VII-B. When asked if medical schools would accept 20.02, Thilly replied, "I've checked that with several sources, and every indication is that med schools will accept our lab."

MIT phone vandalism rises

By Paul Schindler

Tuesday's police blotter reported the theft of a phone from CAES (Center for Advanced Engineering Study). Both of the phones in the lobby of building E19, where the MIT Telecommunications Office has its headquarters, have been stolen. The phone in the lobby of building 26 has no mouthpiece. The phone on the second floor of the Student Center has been epoxied in an effort to prevent its disappearance. And, a five button office phone was stolen from The Tech office last spring.

All of these thefts are merely the tip of an ever-growing iceberg, which has begun to concern the MIT Telecommunications Officer, Mortan Berlan. When this paper recently reported the loss of its phone, Berlan asked us to look further into the matter. We did, with his help.

In the understatement of the

year, he called phone theft at MIT an "inconvenience to the community." From January to November last year, \$950 worth of Telco equipment was stolen on this campus. Besides 21 more or less normal desk phones, a Call director, six panel phones, two Dataphone sets and two auxiliary power plants (used for lighting multi-button phones) also disappeared.

The cost figure does not include labor, the results of vandalism, theft of money from coin phones, or theft of dorm-phone equipment.

Currently, according to Berlan, Telco only charges MIT an installation charge when a phone is stolen. They are seriously considering charging equipment cost, a cost which they now "eat" (absorb) if the rate of theft continues to climb.

Berlan thought the reprinting of the fraud warnings from the front of the phone book might

Nixon budget closes CEA

By Storm Kauffman

The Cambridge Electron Accelerator (CEA) will cease its operation as a research facility by sometime in 1974.

Operated jointly by MIT and Harvard and funded solely by the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), CEA has been replaced by more modern facilities. Harvard Professor of Particle Physics and CEA director, Karl Strauch made the announcement of the shutdown to his staff on January 30. The Tech questioned Strauch about the demise of CEA.

A proposal has been offered to the National Science Foundation that it support the laboratory as the National Synchrotron Radiation Facility. Strauch

explained that operation of the Facility would be much less costly as "only a portion of the present equipment need be retained, greatly simplifying the system. Only one beam (the electron beam) would be required, the rest, such as the elaborate bypass where the beams collide, could be stored or removed." He stressed that the capability of storing beams would be left intact. Also, he said, "There would be an administrative change; I'm a particle physicist and would no longer be director."

Budget plans call for a funding of \$600,000 in the coming fiscal year to cover costs of shutting down the CEA. The facility's allowance for this year

was only two million dollars out of a total of some several hundred million in federal backing for high-energy particle research. However, the bigger and better equipped installations are considered first so CEA will be closed to permit the continuation of work at the National Accelerator Lab at Batavia, Stanford Linear Accelerator (SLAC), Argonne, Brookhaven, and NRL. This small CEA budget is about two-thirds of its 1970 level of funding, so it has been possible to foresee the closing. When CEA ceases operation or is reorganized, the AEC-owned equipment which is not necessary will probably be distributed among the other installations.

Presently, the CEA is utilized as a colliding electron-positron beam facility. CEA has made outstanding discoveries in the field; although no longer foremost in colliding beams, its headstart in operation has permitted researchers to make significant discoveries. Each beam has an energy of 2.5 billion electron volts. Although the new SPEAR device at SLAC will have approximately the same beam energies, its advantage lies in its greater luminosity, up to a thousand times more intense than CEA. This higher particle flux will permit the accumulation of more data in less time, a very important factor when working in the statistical event realm of high energy physics.

MIT Professor of Physics Louis S. Osborne, who frequently used the CEA for projects, explained that CEA has been having difficulty in reaching its design luminosity. "Several years ago, as a result of cuts in funding, the CEA was limited to work on colliding beams. Although we were then saddened at the prospect of the

(Please turn to page 2)

UAP outlines scheme of organization to GA

The General Assembly met on Wednesday night for the first time in eleven months.

More than fifty people attended the meeting at which UAP Curtis Reeves outlined his plans to make the organization more responsive to the needs and wishes of students. Reeves cautioned the group against making the same mistakes that had killed the old GA a year ago. He suggested that there were enough on-campus issues to keep people from going into national politics or international affairs.

After a rather lengthy discourse on the history of the GA, and the plans for its future, Reeves answered questions from the representatives. "Most of the questions had to do with communications, and I think that's a good place to start working."

Other results of the meeting included the decision to organize Kaleidoscope for the early spring, and perhaps to sponsor a major concert that evening.

Student Center Committee chairman, Steve Wallman gave a short description of his group and its recent achievements.

Reeves said that he plans to have the chairman of at least one of the UA committees at each meeting in order to familiarize the GA representatives with the undergraduate government structure.

Plans were also made to sell red and white carnations on Valentine's Day. "Buy one and give it to your favorite secretary," said UAVP Steve Taylor, who is heading the project.

Reeves noted that only four fraternities had sent delegates to the meeting and expressed the hope that more fraternity people would come to future meetings. "We did have people from every dormitory except Bexley and East Campus," he noted.

"Strangely enough, the meeting went very well," Reeves remarked.

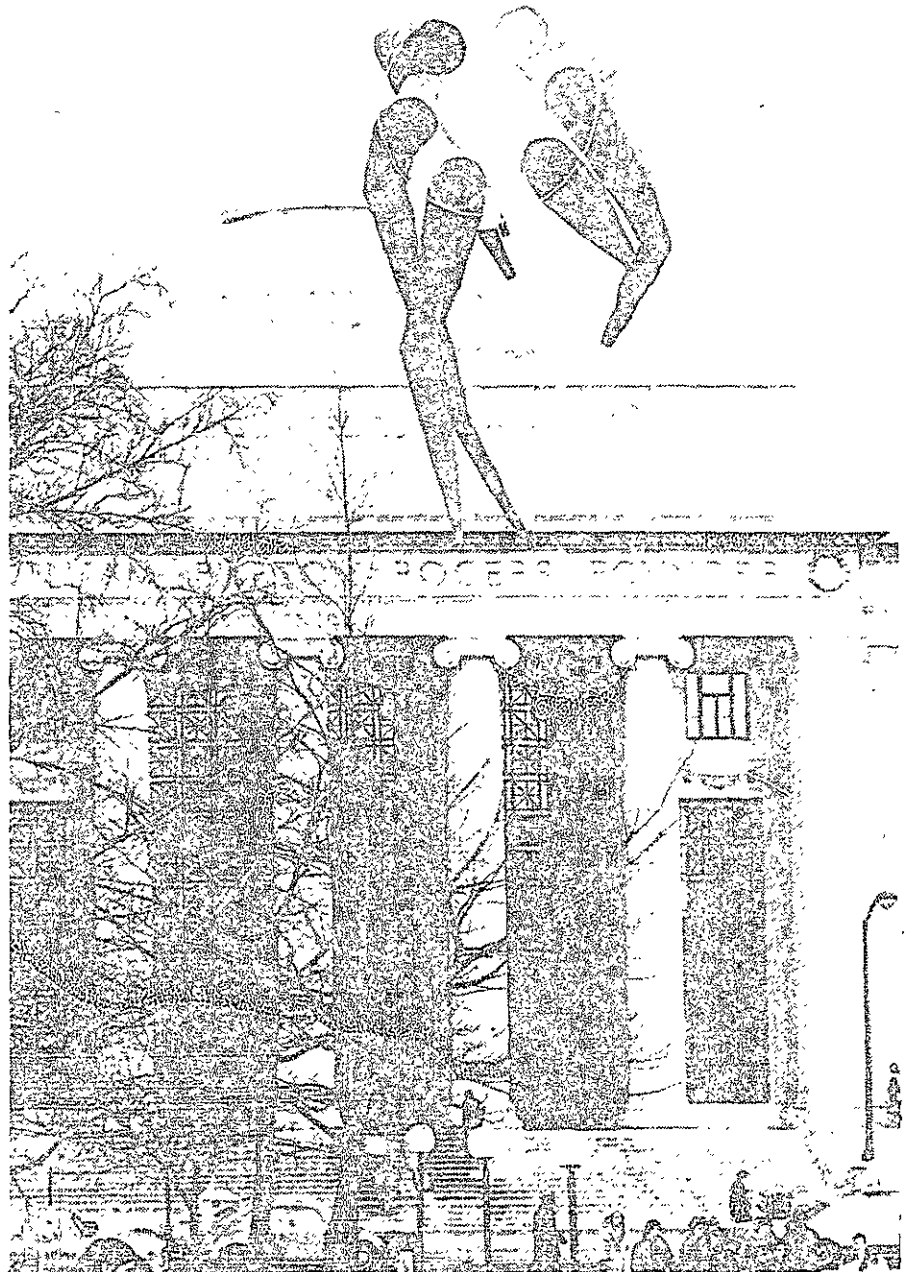


Photo by Dave Green

Foundation to assist inventors, ease crunch

By Bert Halstead

A new organization has been formed to help MIT inventors get started on the right foot with the marketing of their ideas, and hopefully ease MIT's financial crunch at the same time.

Richard S. Morse, president of the new MIT Development Foundation, says it has a two-fold mission. The first part is to help MIT researchers who think they have discovered something to do the basic homework involved in setting up a corporation. The foundation provides money and counsel to assist in conducting patent searches, analyzing market prospects, and organizing the potential corporation. The foundation also serves to connect the researcher with potential sources of venture capital.

The foundation is not a large operation, however, and cannot help everybody who has something he wants to market. One of its purposes is to expedite the development and general availability of products that seem to fill a definite public need. Certain ideas are obviously more suited to this than others, and the foundation has had to turn down many inventions in order to be able to concentrate in an

intensive manner on those that it believes to have real potential.

The second goal of the foundation is financial. In return for its services, the foundation will receive a small amount of stock — less than a controlling interest — in the new corporation. Over the years it is hoped that the income from this stock will help significantly in easing the Institute's budgetary problems.

For the reason why, a historical perspective is helpful. More than 250 technology-based corporations have "spun off" from MIT in the last 30 years, accounting for many of the enterprises that line Route 128. "If we had a 10% interest in the companies that have started on technology from here, we wouldn't need an alumni fund," says Morse.

Chief among these companies is the Digital Equipment Corporation, started in 1957 by MIT researcher Kenneth Olsen. Its annual sales have now reached \$147 million, and it has become the largest manufacturer of small computers in the world. Other well-known companies with roots at MIT include EG&G, Inc., and Bolk, Beranek, and Newman, Inc.

Stating that an organization

like this has never been attempted before, Morse cited the need for the utilization of technology for the public welfare. He also mentioned the United States' and the New England area's high labor costs, and made the point that, to be competitive, it is vital to have technologically-based enterprises.

The foundation has just finished raising about half a million dollars for its own expenses from a variety of sponsors. MIT contributed \$50,000, and grants of \$25,000 each were obtained from several carefully selected large corporations (such as Exxon, the First National Bank of Boston, and Monsanto) in-

terested in the kind of entrepreneurship the foundation is trying to promote. In return, these sponsors will be among the first to hear about the new ideas, and will be able to invest their own money in the enterprises.

Though the foundation nominally operates independently of MIT, a majority of its directors are appointed by the MIT Corporation, and, in addition to the financial benefits the Institute hopes to obtain from it, there are educational benefits as well. Morse himself teaches a course in the Sloan School on how to organize, manage, and run business enterprises, and the foundation sponsors graduate research

about relevant subjects such as "innovative processes."

Morse concluded that MIT should be cooperating with industry and creating jobs, and "we're finally going to do something about it." He said the MIT Development Foundation is "looking for people, first-grade entrepreneurs." When it finds them, the rewards to the Institute, the entrepreneur, and the public at large may be significant.

Tight '74 AEC funds to close accelerator

(Continued from page 1)

reduction of the level of activity, there was potential excitement over the opportunity to conduct the annihilation experiments [positrons are the anti-particles of electrons, having identical properties except for the reversal of the sign of the charge, and upon close approach the two annihilate each other to release their mass as energy.] However," he continued, "we never achieved our luminosity by a factor of ten to a hundred, and another ring at SLAC started at a good intensity and is up to a thousand or so times CEA's."

Osborne noted that SPEAR's ascendancy is a case of technological competition and that the majority of people using CEA felt that supporting SPEAR was the correct decision.

Previous plans that called for the construction of a magnetic detector to supplement the current non-magnetic one have been abandoned. The present device can only count particles, but a magnetic detector can measure

their momentum by finding the angle through which the beam bends in a known magnetic field.

Both Strauch and Osborne pointed out the significant work done at the installation. Strauch said that the CEA research has been unique, and it is currently the highest energy colliding beam facility in service (SPEAR will not be operational for several months). It was "the first modern high-energy strong focus electron synchrotron." Work performed at CEA "pioneered in the determination of the structure of the proton and neutron and led to the establishment of the connection between the photon and rho meson." It has been a leader in the high-energy photo production of mesons and strange particles. Osborne pointed out that although the poor luminosity often made it difficult to produce sufficient data, the CEA facility was unusually productive in the creation of strong interacting particles from electron-positron annihilations.

NOTES

* The Student Center Committee presents the return of the Midnite Movie Series. This week's movie will be "The Little Shop of Horrors" starting at midnite. Friday, February 9 in the Sala de Puerto Rico. Admission Free!!!

* POT LUCK COFFEEHOUSE Live entertainment every Friday and Saturday night, 8:30 pm to 12 m. Mezzanine Lounge of Student Center. Free coffee, cider and doughnuts. Performing this week: Friday — Gaytha Hillman, Brian Rohsenow. Free Admission!

* There will be a meeting of the Association of Student Activities on Tuesday, February 13 at 7:30 pm in Room 491, Student Center. All activities are urged to have a representative attend this meeting. This will be the last chance to become a Class A activity before the election meeting in March.

* Finboard will hold its next meeting on Monday, February 12 at 7:30 pm in Room 401, Student Center.

* Transcripts with January period grades will be available beginning the week of March 5, 1973.

* Applications for advanced degrees in June 1973 must be returned to the registrar by February 23, 1973.

* Any minority senior of MIT who wishes to apply for the Marron W. Fort Fellowship for 1973-74 should register by March 2, 1973 in the Office of Dean Clarence G. Williams (Room 3-140). Each applicant should also submit an informal application (a one-page essay about himself and his career plans) at the same time. These candidates will then be scheduled for a personal interview by the staff of the Graduate School.

* The talk on law by John Roberts, sponsored by the pre-professional office has been cancelled and will be rescheduled.

* The Opera Workshop is now preparing to produce "The Magic Flute." Volunteers to audition for SOLO parts are needed. No auditions necessary for CHORUS parts — just call. Chorus people will need one hour a week, perhaps a little more later. Do you want to make scenery? Sets? Props? Call John Cook, 14N-233, x3-6961.

* Technology Community Association general meeting on February 13, at 7:30 pm in the TCA Office, W20-450. Open meeting, for members and prospective members. All

projects will be represented, come in and find out what TCA is all about. Refreshments served. Call x3-4885 if you wish to have information and/or cannot show up at the meeting.

* HoToGAMIT will have a meeting on February 14. Wednesday, for staff members and candidates in TCA, W20-450. All people who wish to contribute to the book should attend, it's the first organizational meeting before work starts. Call x3-4885 if you want to work on the book but cannot attend. HoToGAMIT needs a lot of people for the staff and an editor.

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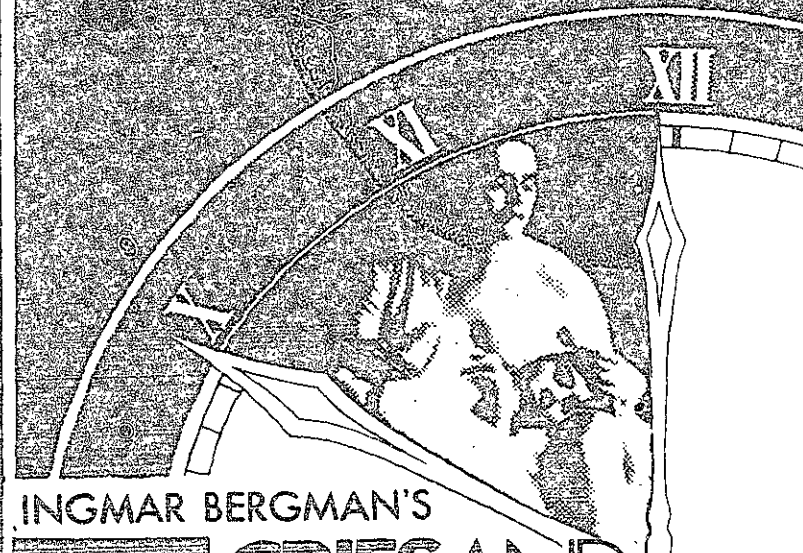
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Innovation seminar offered

By Mike McNamee

A new seminar series is being started at MIT to encourage the study of innovation and entrepreneurship, and to explore the feasibility of educating college students in these methods.

Professor Yao Tzu Li of Aero and Astro says that a \$300,000 National Science Foundation grant to fund the seminar is "in the final phases of approval." Li is the originator of the series, which will come under NSF's "Experimental R&D Incentives Program." This program is also related to the MIT Development Corporation (see story, page two), which was founded to help MIT people market any new inventions or processes they discover.

"Our economy is geared to government-originated, mission-type projects. These are large, expensive projects in which a basic goal is handed down from some governmental agency, and the individual contractors just do their own little part of the task," Li explained. He added that current technological educations are well suited to this type of system, because the individual worker is only expected to work toward a specific, well-defined goal. "This applies to college graduates and machinists alike," said Li, "they just follow the governmental guidelines." Examples of the mission-type program are the space program and the defense projects.

Cutbacks in government spending in space and defense, along with growing concern about the environment, foreign competition, and resource shortages, are leading to an end of the large-project era. Li believes that there will be a growing need in the future for self-starters, people that can conceive new ideas and products and set their own goals. "The usual college education today can't train these people," Li said. "Students are taught to think in mathematical models, to apply equations to every situation. The only problem is, you can't write the equations for air flow in an engine without knowing what the engine is going to look like." He emphasized that many new

products get bogged down in all the legal, marketing, assembly, and other non-engineering problems "which most college courses don't cover in any way," Li added.

Li, who has thirty-seven patents in his name, designed the seminar with an incentive program in mind. "Our Innovation Co-op will concentrate on methods to develop and invent new products," he explained, adding that they will work on small projects, "like designing a

better bicycle." He hopes to work with the Development Corp. in marketing any especially good ideas that come out of the seminar. The Innovation Co-op will be supervised by a board of directors picked by MIT and NSF, and will work with many area industries in developing the new products. Li plans to reward students with royalties and returns from any patents and licensing fees that are paid on new products.

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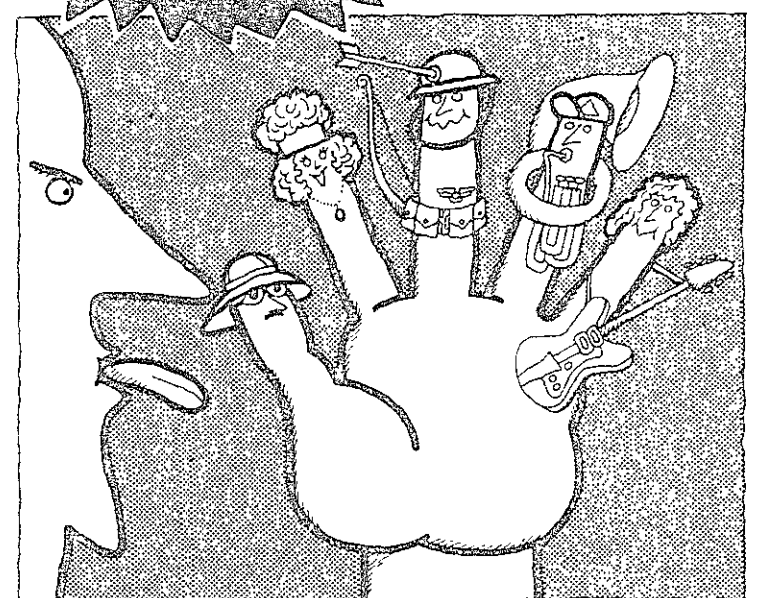
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Commentary:

Nixon is marching on the media

By Edwin Diamond

Diamond is a visiting lecturer in the Political Science Department, a TV news commentator, and Contributing Editor of *New York Magazine*. This article originally appeared in *Newsday* and is reprinted with the author's permission.

"There are more of us here," a leader at the Counter-Inaugural march shouted at the thousands massed in front of the Washington Monument, "then there are at Nixon's parade . . ." The biggest roar of that chill January afternoon went up from the crowd. It was a warning thought, but the television networks calculated otherwise. ABC News, relying on US Park Police, gave a count of 50,000 anti-war demonstrators; the CBS Evening News that night reported the crowd "fell far short" of the expected 100,000. More important than the body counting, the networks managed to keep their cameras trained on the marching bands and floats of the Nixon Inaugural parade, giving only the barest of attention to the protestors.

With a Vietnam cease-fire — if not a certain peace — in hand the Jan. 20 anti-war rally was probably the last demonstration in Washington. Appropriately enough, the decade of peace marches and Moratorium Days — how many songs has it been since Phil Ochs sang, "I Ain't Marching Anymore"? — ended as it began: miscounted by the authorities and underreported by the news media.

That of course, is not the official Washington verdict. Both the role of the peace marchers and the role of the news media in covering the marchers have been vociferously attacked, first by the Johnson administration and more recently by the Nixon White House. Dean Rusk, Hubert Humphrey and Spiro Agnew, among others, have argued that the television cameras were giving too much coverage to dissent in the country ("Whose side are you on?" Rusk once exploded to a reporter). But, on balance over the years, the evidence is that the media played the government game. After one Johnson-era anti-war demonstration, as late as 1967, the *Washington Post* sniffed at the "shaggy ones" and the "sweet smell of pot" while *Time* wrote alarmingly about "hard-eyed revolutionaries," and *Newsweek* spoke of "freak-outs" and "gaggles of hippies."

In the first Nixon term, the White House made the coverage of peace demonstrations a major media issue. In fact, it is now fairly well established that Vice President Agnew's notorious attack on the media in mid-November 1969, was carefully timed to discourage network television coverage of the huge Vietnam Moratorium a few days later. Certainly, the tactic worked. By and large, the

Nixon era marches — 1969 to 1972 — received less attention than those in the Johnson years. The November 16, 1969, Moratorium attracted almost a half-million Americans to Washington, but the television networks gave no live coverage to this largest protest gathering in the history of the United States. And the coverage that night on the network news programs was also minimal. A few months later, however, the same networks went all out in their live coverage of Earth Day, perhaps because Ecology appeared to be "respectable dissent." Prof. M.L. Stein of New York University's Department of Journalism, after a study of the record, concluded, Round 1 to Agnew. Since then, senior network news executives have admitted they might have been too timid about the November moratorium coverage.

And looking at the coverage of subsequent demonstrations — right down to that of the Jan. 20 Counter-Inaugural — even a friend to the media might well score Rounds 2, 3 and 4 for Agnew too.

Another of Agnew's tactics that brought results was his charge that marches would probably dry up and blow away if the television cameras were not on hand to "record the antics" of the demonstrators. The argument invariably overlooks the fact that dissent has a long, honorable, pre-television history in this country; indeed it is hard to remember a time when some group — bonus marchers, suffragettes, abolitionists, Boston Tea Party-goers — was not in the streets. In the Age of Cronkite, the peace marchers were no less true to their cause. Certainly the 100,000 or so people who came to Washington on January 20 were not there with any expectation of getting on camera. Just about everyone I talked to in the crowd was indifferent to the news coverage: a few reporters and television crews moved through the marchers, without causing much excitement. A group of young men and women had streaked their faces white for a "March of Death" leading the protest parade. But even this obvious television "visual" seemed as much intended to affect the marchers as the camera.

But there are some issues involved here more basic than the media tendency to pigeonhole the anti-war marchers — "hippies," "hard-eyed revolutionaries," "housewives," — or to play down their protests. One issue is the effect if any, the demonstrations had on official policy decisions. Richard Nixon once declared that the wouldn't permit American foreign policy to be made "in the street." He also let it be known, on the occasion of another peace demonstration, that he would be watching a football game in the

White House rather than paying attention to the protestors gathered a few hundred yards across Constitution Avenue. Yet one correspondent who closely followed the Kissinger peace efforts affirms that Mr. Nixon's recent actions were indeed influenced by the persistence of protests and by the tide of public opinion against the war. The Nixon administration continually admonished reporters, "Judge us not by what we say but what we do." The White House, understandably enough, wanted a happy Inauguration and a peaceful start of Mr. Nixon's second term; the North Vietnamese knew this, one correspondent says, "and tried to squeeze Nixon for the best possible settlement — first before Election Day and then before Inaugural day . . ." In a sense then, policy was made in the streets.

Congress, after all, has to vote funds for war policies, and if the White House officially professes to be deaf to the sounds of protest, hundreds of members of Congress were listening, sporadically at first, more attentively later. Carolyn Lewis, a television correspondent who covered the US Senate during the Vietnam years, remembers how congressional opinion on Vietnam has slowly but steadily shifted around as protests grew. For many congressmen, Lewis recalls, an emotional turning point came a year or so ago, when demonstrators representing the Vietnam Veterans Against the War, some of them in wheelchairs, threw down their combat medals and combat awards in the shadow of the Capitol building.

A second issue is the effect the demonstrations and the protest marches had on public opinion. Why did public opinion shift on the war? Did the marches play any part in changing ordinary citizen's opinions? Like the Vietnam war itself, most Americans weren't "there" in person at the marches. About 2,500,000 Americans passed through Vietnam — history will judge whether that was 2,500,000 too many — and perhaps 2,500,000 Americans participated at one time or another in protest marches. This means 99 per cent of the population received what impressions they did get of the war and of the demonstrations through the media, primarily through the evening television news. Vietnam, among other strange qualities, was the first "living room war." Journalists and psychologists alike have debated the medium's effect on the message: Did the constant televised sight of fighting and the killing on the home screen night after night strip away the glory and make the war "untenable" by any President? Or did the televised repetition serve to harden the audience, make the viewer blot out reality — and thus permit the war to go on and on? Applying the same McLuhanesque question to the decade of dissent over Vietnam, did the media's coverage of the protest, such as it was, give the demonstrations a "legitimacy" and make them a force that eventually had to be reckoned with?

The answers to these questions tend to be ambiguous, as the war itself was. Some kind of force did grow in this country and bring about a drastic change in the policies of three Presidents. And the media did record and broadcast the spectacle of dissent. But create it or legitimize it?

Sen. William Fulbright, in a discussion with CBS Washington Bureau Chief

Letters

To the Editor:

I am asking your cooperation in publishing this letter so that I may reach the general student population. I am attempting to accumulate some meaningful data for a serious study on American communes. To that end, I wish to reach as many communes as possible by mail, and in some cases for personal interviews, if agreeable.

I will be grateful if students, graduate and undergraduate, who are living in communal situations, will write me indicating willingness to receive a questionnaire. Size of commune is unimportant; three or four people, up to any number.

Mae T. Sperber
26 West 9th St, 9E
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William Small, offered what seems to me the most sensible explanation. It was, said Fulbright, "the common sense and wisdom" of the anti-war position — and not television — that gave dissent respectability. In the case of Vietnam, the message was the message.

COMMENTARY

Commentary, a feature of this editorial page, seeks articles of opinion from all members of the MIT community on topics of immediate or long-range concern. While articles on scientific and technical subjects are welcome, papers that only present detailed technical discussions without either personal commentary of an examination of the subject's non-scientific impact will not be accepted. No unsigned material will be accepted, nor will articles which can be construed as being libelous.

Submissions should be no more than two thousand words long (one word being considered to be five typewriter characters; two thousand words is approximately nine pages, triple spaced, fifty-characters per line) and should be typed, triple spaced. They should be accompanied by the author's name, address, and phone number.

The Tech will continue to publish Letters to The Tech as they are received.

Continuous News Service

The Tech

Since 1881

Vol. XCIII, No. 2

February 9, 1973

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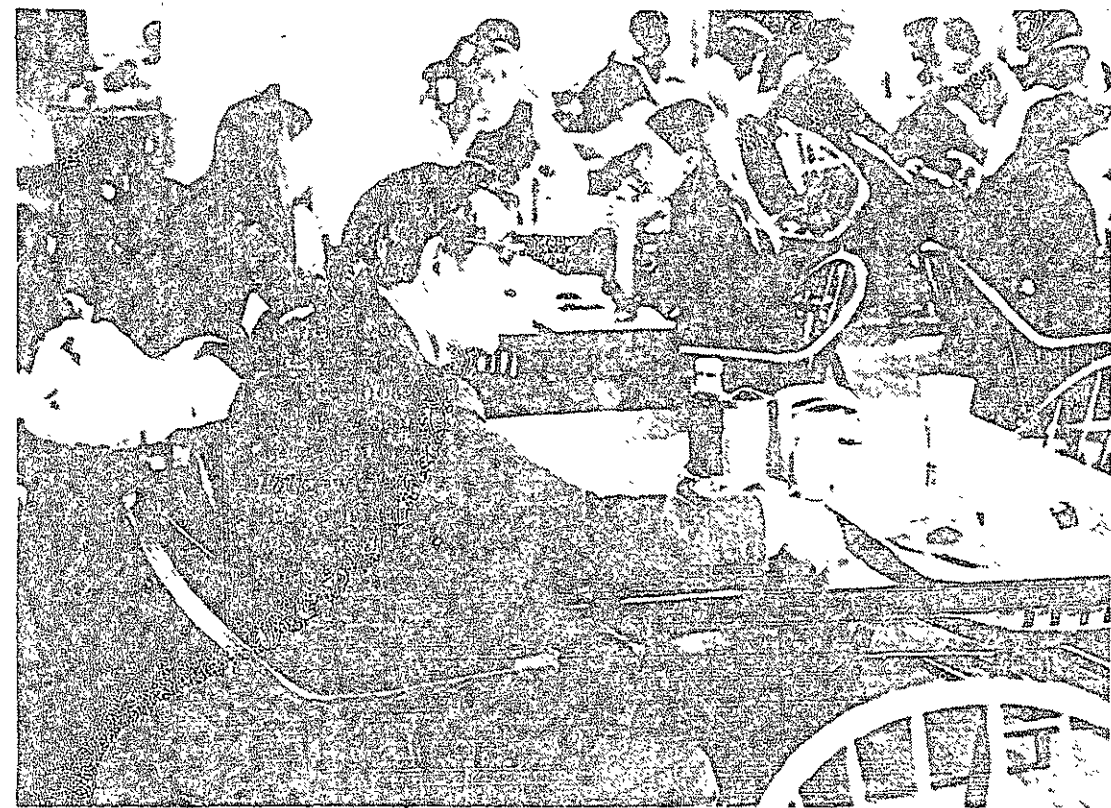
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Photos to The Tech



To the Editor:

We would appreciate your publishing this photo with a statement such as "Dear President Wiesner: Where will YOU be eating next term?"

The photographer wishes to remain anonymous.

Committee to Save
Ashdown Dining

Faculty to re-examine pass/fail

By Lee Giguere

(The question of whether to continue Freshman Pass-Fail indefinitely is slated to come before the Faculty at its April meeting, after being postponed from last year. Lee Giguere, who covered last year's debate for The Tech will examine some of the issues surrounding pass-fail in the freshman year in a series of articles for The Tech. —Editor)

What was originally intended simply as an evaluation of the effects of last spring's Faculty decision to provide freshmen with "terse and concrete" evaluations is developing into a quick but wide-ranging re-examination of the entire question of Freshman Pass-Fail.

According to Professor of Mathematics Arthur Mattuck, chairman of the Freshman Pass-Fail Grading Committee, the original charge to the committee, which he summarized as "trying to find out how the hidden grades are working," was "too narrow." The committee, he said, will "take a quick look at pass-fail again."

The review will have to be quick, because the committee was not appointed by Faculty Chairman Hartley Rogers until late November, and is expected to report to the Faculty in March. Voting on the question is currently slated for the April meeting; according to Faculty rules, a motion for a change in the rules must "lie over" for one month.

So far the work of the committee has been limited to the task of collecting information; a comprehensive questionnaire on pass-fail has been sent out to all faculty, and a sample of 250 freshmen and 250 juniors. In addition, individual members of the committee have polled various departments about their handling of freshmen grading with particular concern for the matter of so-called hidden grades.

The initial response of committee members queried, however, is that the committee has not done too much as yet. Of the two meetings held up till now, according to Mattuck, the second was devoted largely to approving the questionnaires themselves. There appears to have been little discussion in the committee as a whole of any information collected so far. (While a substantial number of the questionnaires have already been returned, their tabulation is only just beginning.)

Main issues

When asked what the main issues before the committee were, Mattuck replied that the question of medical school requests for more information about freshman course work, the issue, as he noted, which was the "main reason the vote was postponed" from last year, was one of them. Last year the Faculty voted that "meaningful

evaluations" in "terse and concrete terms" be made in freshman courses; Mattuck explained that part of the committee's task was to determine "if hidden grades are so screwed up it's a farce." Another area of concern, he pointed out, is that faculty members are unsure about pass-fail; the committee, in examining the results of its faculty-wide poll, is going to "look for correlations between sentiments and groups" within the faculty. Of concern also are student attitudes towards pass-fail.

Among the committee members themselves, there is a fairly wide spread of opinion on what the principal issues before them are. Concern with the problems of pre-professional students ranks high, but so does the matter of faculty views on pass-fail itself. Furthermore, the scope of the committee's investigation remains to be completely determined and some members are worried about the group's credibility.

Specifically, the committee is charged to:

1. Monitor the operation of the freshman pass-fail grading system this year, noting in particular what form the 'meaningful evaluations' take.
2. Inform itself of medical school admissions policy and the activities of the pre-professional advisory system at MIT.
3. Identify trends in the admission of MIT students to graduate and professional schools, noting medical school admission trends in particular.
4. Conduct a faculty-wide survey of opinion on pass-fail grading for freshmen.
5. Evaluate the freshman pass-fail grading system as it operates this year and make recommendations as to its continuation and/or modification in the future. (This report should be made to the Chairman of the Faculty.)

More than a review

Assistant Dean for Student Affairs Peter Buttner, Executive Officer of the Freshman Advisory Council, predicted that the committee will "do more than review the pre-med problem." But the biggest challenge the committee faces, he said, is "to overcome an image of partiality." There are many people, he felt, "who feel that pass-fail is in the bag," and that the committee is "a whitewash." There are also fears among the faculty that there is "no effective recourse for people who think [pass-fail] is bad," he believed. Buttner argued, however, that "you could expect that people get together with an open mind." He added, "Everybody is trying to be objective."

The committee, he said, "feels an obligation to represent raised opinions," and is "cast in a role to weigh and judge evidence." Buttner also said: "I

think we are charged with thinking through the issues."

(When asked about fears that the Freshman Pass-Fail Grading Committee was stacked, Mattuck replied "I don't think it's true." He pointed out that what makes it suspect is the fact that several of the committee's members have served on previous pass-fail committees, including the original Committee on Evaluation of Freshman Performance, chaired by now-retired Professor of Economics and Political Science Everett Hagen. "I don't think any of us has a prior commitment to pass-fail," Mattuck asserted.)

The goals of the committee are "pretty well spelled out in the questionnaire," according to Professor of Physics Robert I. Hulsizer. He added that the questionnaire "pretty well covers the range" of possible concerns.

Working well

Asked about his own work on the committee so far, Hulsizer reported that he polled the Departments of Physics, Chemistry and Biology about their handling of last year's Faculty recommendation concerning "terse and concrete" evaluations of freshman course work. "In all the departments," he said, "it's working out very well." He explained that instructors indicate "which students did outstanding work," and records of that are kept by the department itself. A student can then get a letter confirming his performance, if he wants. In Physics, he said, outstanding work is noted on a copy of the "grade list" kept by the department; the copy sent to the registrar carries only pass or fail.

(Hulsizer noted that Physics "has always had to keep records." The "general practice" in the department, he said, is to keep grade books and final exams for five years. "I think Biology and Chemistry tend to keep good records," he added. "People come back with legitimate complaints and questions," Hulsizer explained, and the departments need to have information for dealing with these problems.)

Associate Professor of History Arthur Kaledin, who is on sabbatical leave this term and will not actively participate in the committee's deliberations, didn't "think the committee will ask questions different from those asked before." The committee, he felt, would examine questions like: "Should [pass-fail] be continued as it?" "How do people feel about it?" and "Is the problem with professional school admissions serious enough to warrant modifying it?" He too, stated that the committee would "deal with the questions on the questionnaires."

"I think [the committee] should deal with the question of evaluations and teaching,"

Kaledin added. The committee, he said, should examine whether pass-fail "has made possible, forced innovations" in teaching.

A 'serious question, he said, "is how this decision should be made." But currently there is "a lot of confusion and uncertainty."

Kaledin also explained that he has polled the Departments of Humanities, Political Science, Psychology and Economics "mainly to find out how departments are handling questions of grades and evaluations." In general, he reported that none of those departments had a firm grip on what was going on with respect to either the preparation of "terse and concrete" evaluations or requests by upper-classmen for more information on work they had done as freshmen. None of the departmental officers he interviewed, he said, "knew how many seniors had asked for evaluations."

Turning to his own department, Kaledin said "the old concern about hidden grades was not there." This year, "people felt things had gone better in freshmen courses." (One instructor, he said, was "applying a little internal discipline" in the form of weekly tests on required reading.) "There is a lot of indifference at this point," Kaledin reported.

Professor of Electrical Engineering Arthur C. Smith, who is also a member of the Committee on Academic Performance, would only say that he felt it was "not appropriate to comment at this time" on the committee's work.

The best for everybody

Asked what the key issues faced by the committee are, Professor of Nutrition Emily Wick replied that they were:

"how do you take care of people who need grades" and "how do you make it clear-cut so freshmen can understand what pass-fail really is and how it works." The committee is "trying to do the best for everybody," she said.

Wick said there is "no feeling that everybody wants to wipe out pass-fail." The principal concern "is to make sure that the system is not unfair to anybody." The problem faced by the committee, she felt, is "how to make it best for as many people as possible and make it work for people it's not good for."

"I'm worried about pre-med students who may not get in," she said. "There has to be some way for pre-meds to retrieve the recommendations they need." While not large in absolute numbers, Wick asserted that the pre-med problem is "serious." (It was Wick who first voiced concern about the effect of pass-fail on pre-med students at last year's Faculty meeting.)

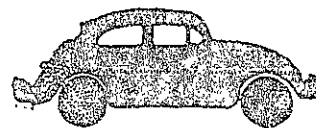
Sandra L. Cohen '73, a student member of the committee who just graduated and is now working in the Admissions Office, was uncertain of what the committee would be doing. "I'm still not sure whether the committee sees itself as resolving unfinished questions or taking a look at the whole thing."

"I'm not sure the committee will get into really deep thinking," she said. It may just report "how the community feels." She said she tended "to think the committee will just go with the majority, if there is one," but she did not think a clear majority opinion would emerge from the questionnaires.

Concerning the medical school question, she said, "I don't think that's a major issue."

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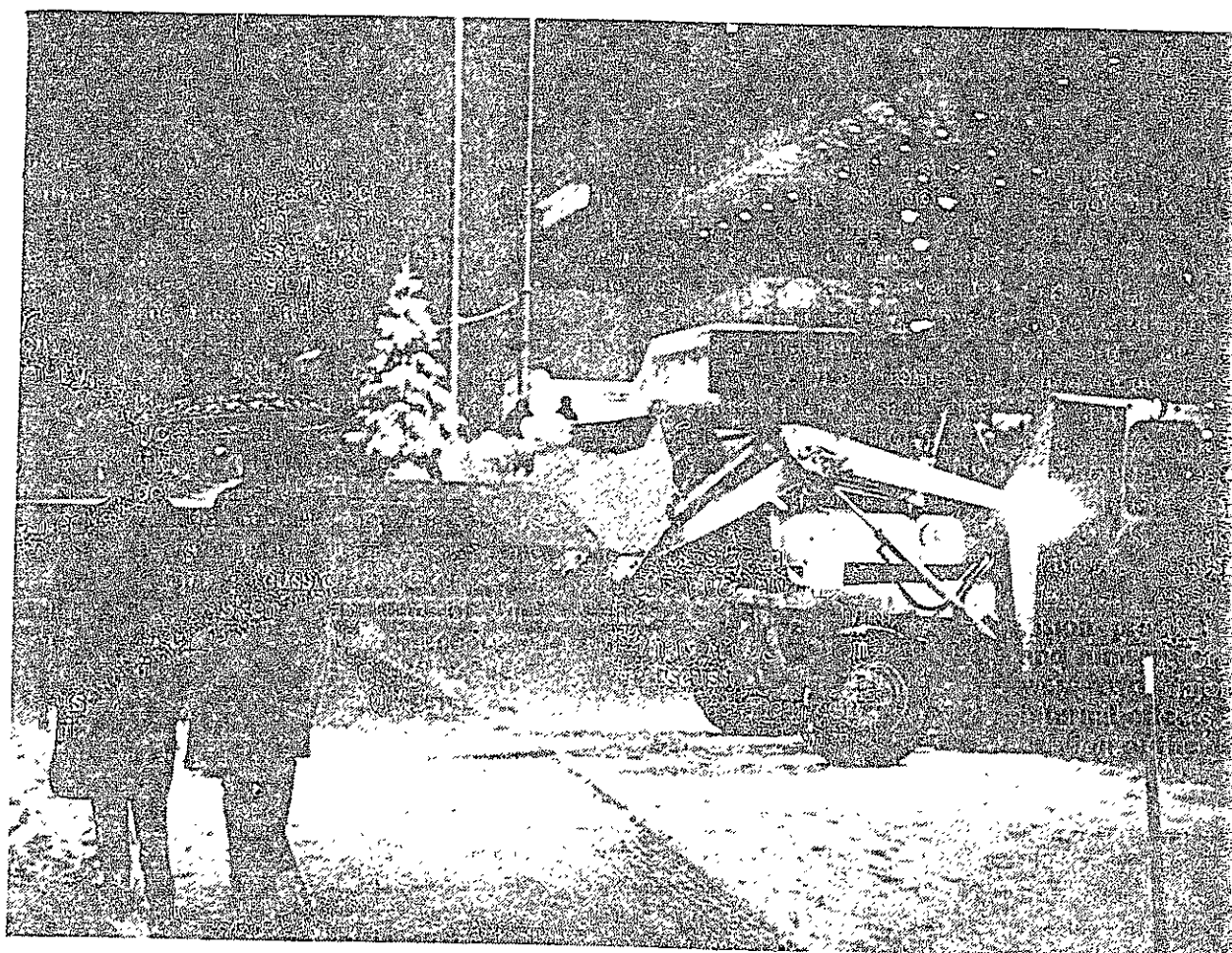
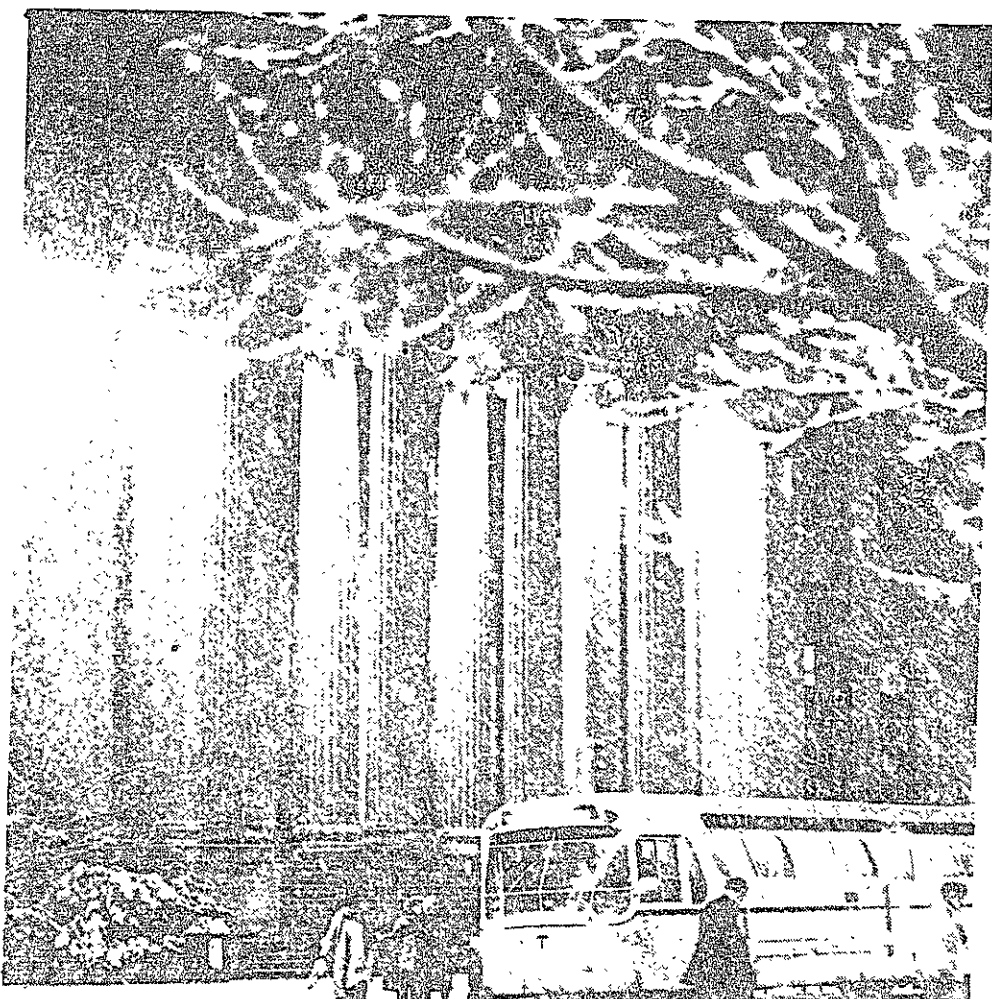
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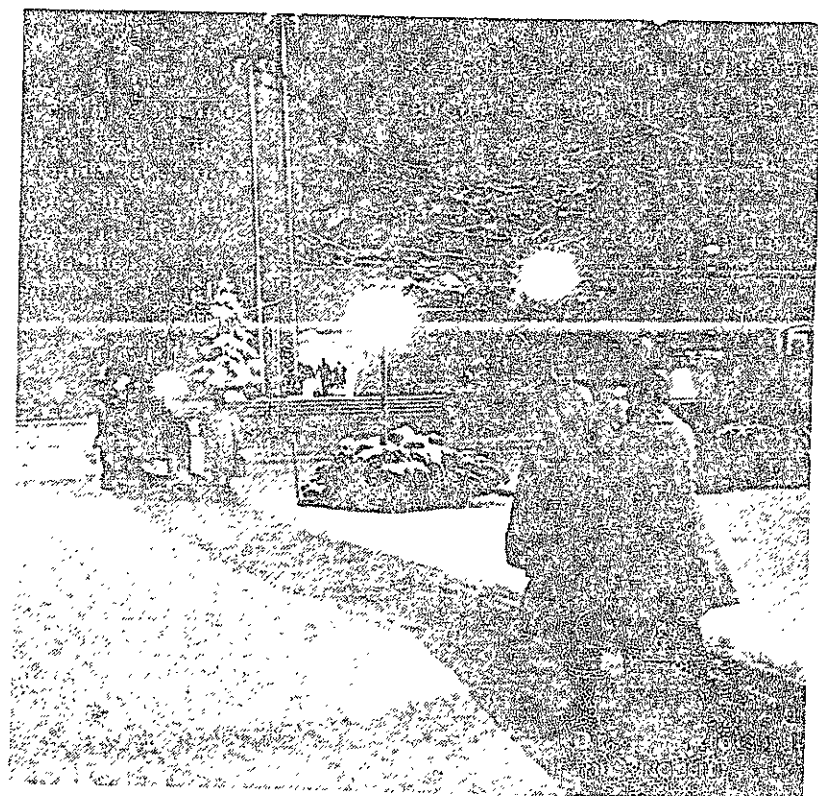
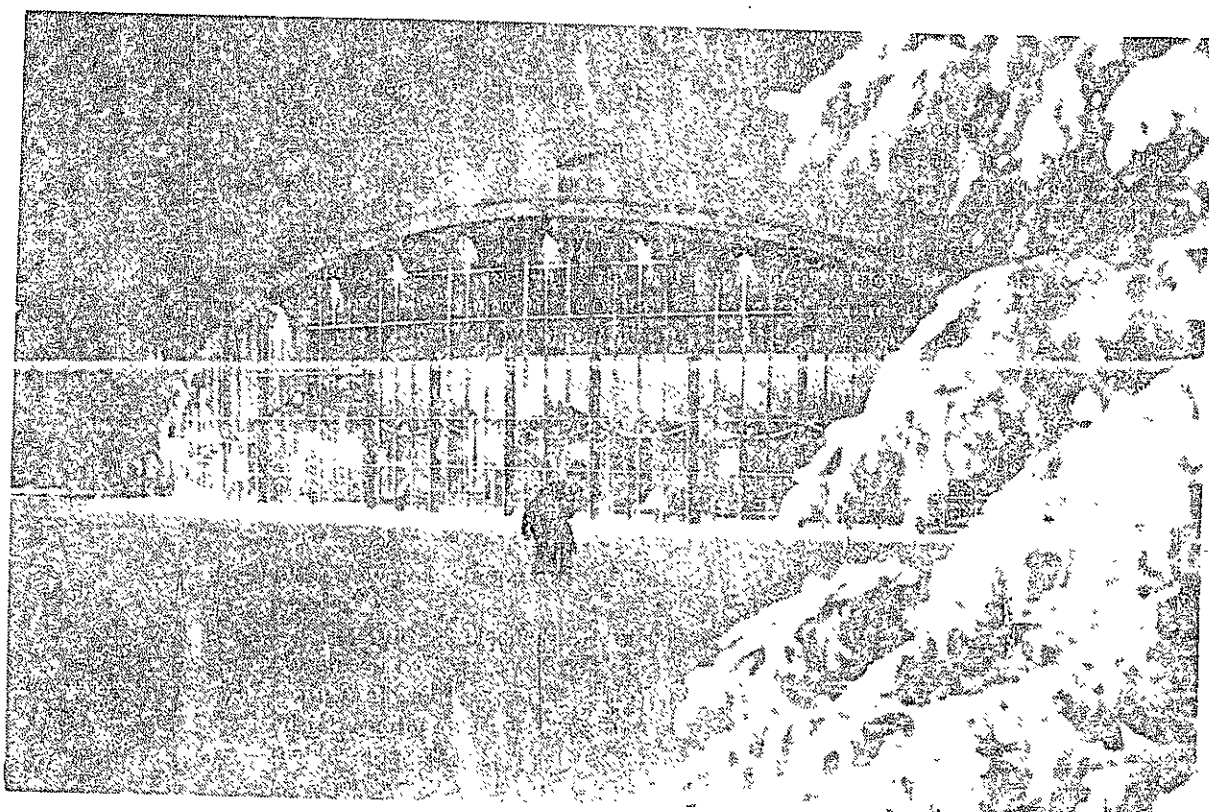
Wednesday, February 14
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Snow Job

or the dreams of a frustrated skier

Photos by David Green



SPORTS

Skiers continue best season

Continuing its strong performance in the EISA Division II competition, the MIT ski team finished second in a field of eight teams the weekend of January 26, roughly 3% in points behind leading Norwich University, and 7% ahead of third place Keene State College.

Friday morning's slalom, won by Berton of Plymouth State, produced somewhat below par performances with John Nabelek '74 finishing tenth. Following him were Gary Ruf '75, 19th; John Clippinger '73, 21st; and Drew Jaglom '74, 24th out of a total of 40 racers. Marc Stellwagon '76 did not finish.

The afternoon's jumping improved the situation substan-

tially with team captain Lewis Jester '73 taking third; Bob Collier '74, seventh; Evan Schwartz '75, tenth; Clippinger, twelfth; and Scott Weigle '74, fifteenth. The event was won by Rancourt of Windham.

After two events, MIT was second behind Norwich, but only fractionally ahead of Windham and Keene.

Saturday's slalom was little better than the previous day's: won by Nystedt of Keene State, Ruf finished tenth, Jaglom thirteenth, Clippinger eighteenth, with Nabelek and Debby Stein '76 disqualified.

Cross-country proved the strongest for the MIT team in spite of the fact that several

members were recovering from the flu. Jester won the event by more than two minutes, with a time of 47:01. He was followed by Collier in fourth place, Weigle, eighth, and Clippinger ninth.

Overall, Clippinger won the Skimeister award, having done best in all four events, and Jester won the Nordic Combined (jumping and cross-country), with Collier finishing second.

With continuing strong Nordic performances and improving Alpine support, the ski team (MIT's strongest in many years) stands an excellent chance of winning the Division II Championships to be held February 16 and 17 at Norwich, Vermont.

Pre-law project offers fieldwork opportunity

By Howard D. Sitzer

This semester MIT is engaged in a concerted effort to expand its law-related studies program and offer students interested in law an opportunity to receive experience in the field.

The program will enable students to receive practical experience in law by participating in the work which lawyers and other professionals perform. Students will be placed in public and private law offices, public administrative agencies, and the state legislature. The program is designed to better prepare students to make basic decisions about graduate study and careers in law related areas.

Professor J.D. Nyhart, Coordinator of Law-Related Studies at MIT, has expressed a great deal of enthusiasm for the program. According to Nyhart, "a

number of faculty and members of the teaching staff, both lawyers and others, will be acting as faculty supervisors for these projects." He added that the program is closely affiliated with UROP, and, where it is appropriate, projects will be supported financially or by academic credit.

During the fall term, several students participated in the program. Michael Thomas (XI, '74) assisted in a project sponsored by the Governor's Committee on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice. In an attempt to professionalize the prosecutorial system in the District Courts, Thomas designed a system for the evaluation of individual prosecutors.

Cliff Ragsdale '74 served in the Massachusetts State Legislature in the office of Rep. Mofenson. He was involved in an analysis of the pending legislation for reform of the state judicial selection process.

Judy Levenson (Wellesley, '73) examined the role of defense counsel in the processing of defendants through the courts. She is continuing her investigation through the spring at the Massachusetts Defenders' Committee and at several district courts.

This term will feature a diverse range of additional placements in the state legislature, municipal courts, law firms, legal aid offices, and public interest groups. Students are also encouraged to devise their own proposals based on their personal interests.

MIT/LEGS

The MIT Legislative Service (MIT/LEGS) will supplement student legislative internships with a series of seminars on legislative processes and current political issues. Professor James Annable (x3-4427) and Timothy Bird, Office of the Provost (x3-4822) have located offices in the state legislature that can provide specific projects and regular supervision. The program is committed to coordinating legislative needs with student interests.

Bird, as well as Suzann and Leonard Buckle (x3-1788) are coordinating the law-related field work program. Students are encouraged to contact them for information about placements or to submit proposals for new placements.

Ma Bell works to stop vandalism

(Continued from Page 1)
rattling."

(Previous articles in this series have been called "slanted," by some and "telco puff-pieces" by others. It is unavoidable; the preponderance of evidence shows AT&T willing and able to follow through virtually any-

thing that crosses its corporate mind.)

"The telecommunications office does not exist to act on the part of New England Telephone," Berlan said. "It is not a question of protecting Telco, it is a matter of MIT's institutional integrity and its relation with a

single vendor." He went on to note that his office was not here "to protect those portions of the network on campus, as our major job. We must, however, protect the service level, and make phone service available when and where people want it." His ability to do this is being hampered by theft, he concluded.

As an example, Berlan mentioned the building 10 public extension, which was formerly located in a phone closet off the lobby. In this sheltered position, the noise level was down. The phone was stolen twice. Now, at MIT's expense, an exposed shelf has been built to hold the extension. "We put phones in the halls for convenience, and for reporting of emergencies," Berlan noted, "but right now we're idling, not installing any more phones until we see what happens to these. Traffic patterns seem to dictate where we can have phones. The vandalism rate is much higher in any low-traffic area. This problem should be of universal concern." Berlan still hopes to increase the number of public extensions, in spite of current problems.

Berlan briefly discussed several other aspects of MIT phone service:

1) The night-time message

recording system on 8181, the dormphone repair number, seems to be speeding up response time to phone repair calls. It works better when complete information is given.

2) There has been no significant Centrex failure since the four hour failure last fall (see *The Tech*, November 28, 1972), and Berlan does not expect one. Telco claims to have tightened their procedures.

3) The Wellesley tie-line has been up since mid-November (it went down after Centrex cut-over) and there is now a regular inspection of all tie-lines for problems. The Concord tie-line is permanently gone, due to considerations of its cost versus usage.

4) Only about 10% of the extensions at MIT are currently A or B service (9 lines and phones capable of making direct-dial long distance calls).

5) Berlan described his tie-line philosophy as doing the best job, for the least money. He is considering the substantial logistics of a WATS line for the Institute due to its considerable long distance traffic (WATS is a flat-charge long distance service). Such a line might even be available to students after hours, he noted, but the entire concept is "very, very tentative."

fraudulently obtaining service

Massachusetts

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Excerpt from the Boston phone book concerning phone fraud.

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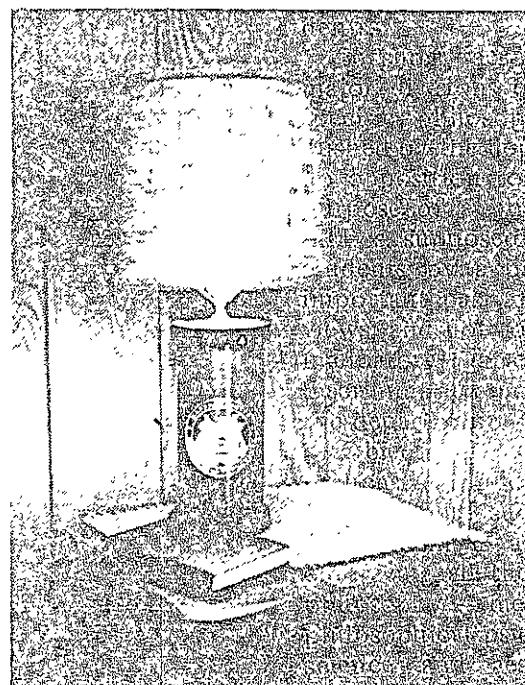
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SPORTS

Tiddlywinkers title on the line at Cornell

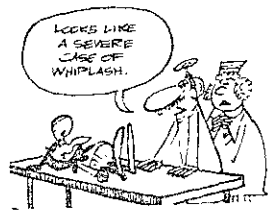
MIT's World Championship Tiddlywinks club is leaving today to try for their second straight North American Championship in the Continentals to be held at Cornell this weekend. In their bid to gain a chance to defend their world title, the MIT winkers will send two equal teams to compete in the "A" Division, plus two additional teams to play in the "B" Division.

In the regional qualifying match held at MIT in December, the "MIT-ZOO" team placed first with 164 points and the "MIT-NO NAMES" placed a close second with 154. The Somervillians, former MIT students who were national champions in 1970 and 1971, qualified as third with 130½ points. Also facing MIT at Cornell will be the top three finishers in the Western Regionals: established powers HYTHNLBTWOC (Hark Yon Tree Hath No Leaves But Them Will Out Club) and Cornell, and a new team from Lake Mohegan, NY, Rivendell.

The MIT potheads are hoping to place their teams 1-2 in the final standings with a spirited fight between the two for the top spot. Of the twelve members

of the two teams, six are veterans of the eight-man team which went to England last year. The biggest threat to MIT dominance at this year's Continentals will probably come from Philadelphia based HYTH. They have strengthened their team by picking up Minnesota Moishes, another member of last year's MIT team, who is doing graduate work in that area now.

The MIT-ZOO team, a solely owned and operated function of MacGregor's B-entry, consists of Bill Renke '73, captain and Craig Schweinhart '73, both England veterans. Filling out the team are Ross Callon '73, T.D. Indian '72, Dave Alexander '74, and Scott Hirsh, subfrosh. Playing for the MIT-NO NAMES are four world champions: Tim Schiller '72, captain, J. Christ '73, Jim Marlin '73, and Dave Lockwood '74; and two other players, Larry Kahn '75 and Sue Shrut '75.



Pucksters drop 4 in a row

By Dan Gantt

Superbly displaying the deficiencies that have come to characterize this year's squad, MIT's hockey team suffered through four humiliating defeats in its latest action. Losses to Wesleyan (12-1), Holy Cross (12-3), Nichols (11-5), and the University of Connecticut (13-1) dropped Tech to a 1-8 record for the season.

Wesleyan duplicated an early-

season massacre, icing this latest contest with five second period goals in a span of four minutes. A Rob Hunter '73 goal was the only dent Tech could make in the scoreboard.

MIT then traveled to Holy Cross, and for a while it seemed as though the Wesleyan effort was forgotten. Scores by Hunter and Tom Lydon '73 kept the Engineers close, trailing by only 4-2 after two periods. The flood-

gates blew open in the final period, though. Holy Cross tallied a school record eight times in the stanza; Tech's offense, getting but 15 shots on net, just could not keep up.

Nichols, by contrast, annihilated MIT early, mounting an 8-2 lead heading for the last 20 minutes. Coasting to the win, Nichols yielded three final Tech goals for an 11-5 margin. Two goals by Lydon, two by Jim Alward '75, and a single tally by Rick Casler '74 accounted for the MIT scoring.

The University of Connecticut added the final insult, 13-1, last Saturday night. Ten U. Conn. goals preceded George Kenney's ('73) shut-out-avoiding third period score. However, it was too little too late to save the Engineers.

Amazingly enough, throughout this disappointing season MIT has not been shut out once. This fact becomes particularly unimportant, though, when one considers that had they scored ten goals in each of these four games, they would have still racked up four losses. If you haven't figured it out by now, heaven help you; for MIT to beat anyone else this year, somebody has got to keep the puck out of the Tech goal. Take pity on the men minding our nets. Even Ken Dryden can't stop 50 shots a game.



Photo by Krishna Gupta

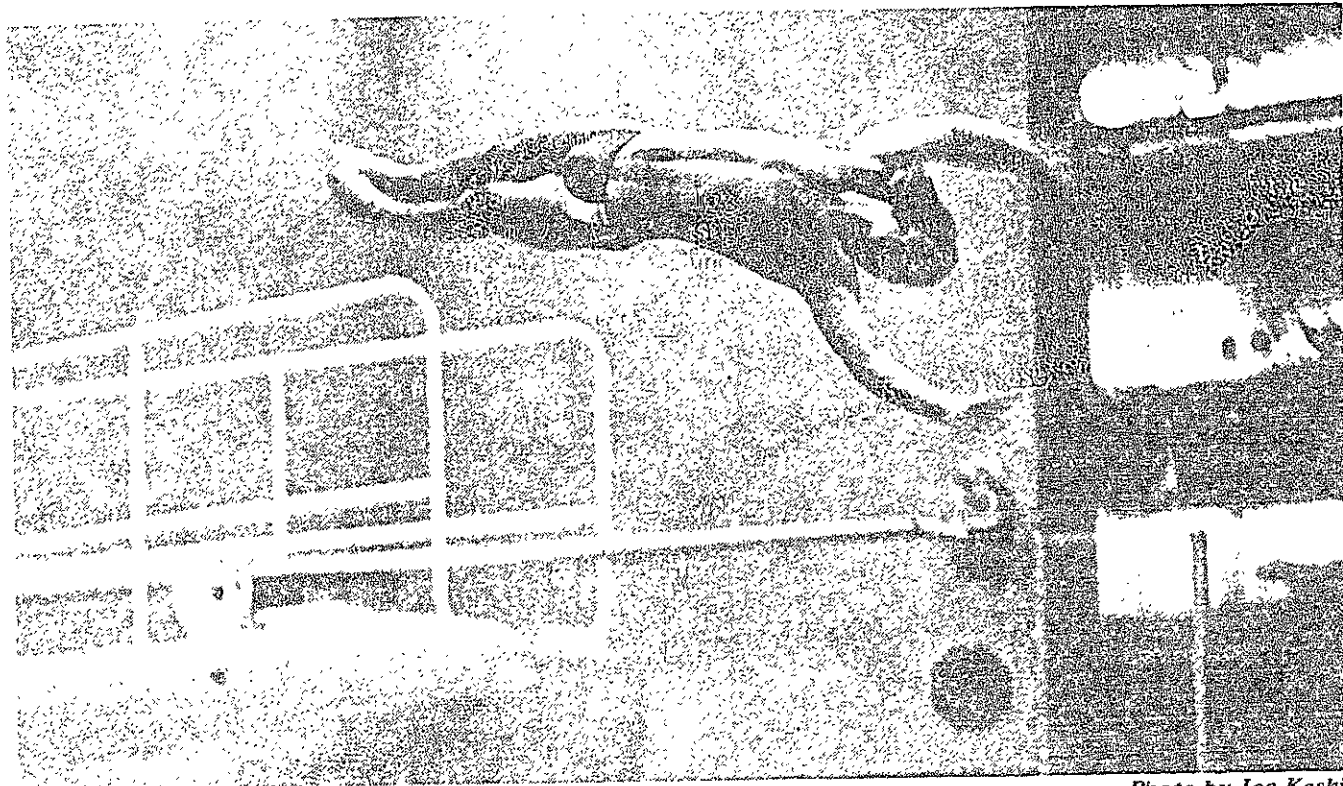


Photo by Joe Kashi

Swimmers edged 59-54

By Sandy Yulke

The MIT swim team, which is 2 and 4 so far this year, dropped a close meet to Amherst on Wednesday night by 59-54. The meet was marked by the strength of MIT in the distance events, its depth in strokes other than freestyle, and the strength of Amherst in the sprint and freestyle events.

Peter Schulz '75 has continued to show astonishing improvement, and won the 500-yd. freestyle in a time of 5:15; his previous best had been a 5:27. Dan Bethencourt, also a soph-

omore, came in third, with 5:27. Bethencourt had the best night of anyone there, also winning the 200-yd. individual medley in 2:13.9, and taking second in the 1000-yd. freestyle with 11:47. Schultz won the 1000-yd. freestyle with 11:20.1.

Two MIT freshmen, David Schloerb and Charles Sheffield placed one-two in the 220-yd. breaststroke, with 2:27.2 and 2:28.0 respectively. The third place finisher, from Amherst, was way behind at 2:35.3.

Another highlight for the MIT team was the 200-yd. backstroke. Dave Deacon '75, who won the freshman athletic award last year for his outstanding performance, did not swim last semester and only started working out during IAP. His 2:12.8 easily took first place, and was six

seconds better than the first race he swam this year. He was followed by Arne Langsetmo '76, in an MIT one-two finish, in 2:24.0.

Tom Peterson '73, one of the veterans on the team, won the 200-yd. butterfly in 2:12.6, and Dave Schneider '74 took third with 2:20.0.

The MIT divers have shown a great deal of improvement (all the divers are beginners this year) and finished with Dorian Punj '73 in second, and Baxter Jones '76 in third.

The meet was nip and tuck all the way, and was only lost on the last event, the 400-free relay, which Amherst took in 3:24.4. The swimmers meet Trinity at the Alumni Pool tomorrow at 2 pm.



Photo by Joe Kashi

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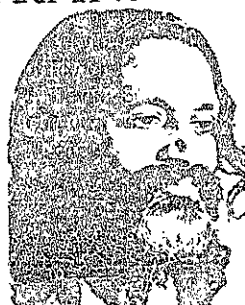
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