

Search delayed for OME head

By Amy Gorin

The search for a new Office of Minority Education (OME) director has been postponed, according to Associate Provost and acting OME director Frank E. Perkins '55.

The OME has not had a director since Aug. 24, when Perkins dismissed Dr. William D. McLaurin. Perkins promised in September that by October he would appoint a search committee to find a new director.

It has become necessary, Perkins said, to clarify and re-think the goals and functions of the OME before the search can begin.

Among the issues Perkins feels must be discussed are the OME's function as an academic support service *versus* its place as a community affairs office, and the OME's commitment to MIT students *versus* its commitment to high school minority programs.

Perkins said he is "prepared and eager to meet with any group" about these issues. A few members of the community have already offered their opinions, he said, and the Black Alumni Association of MIT has volunteered to help with the search process.

An *ad hoc* committee of representatives from the administration, the faculty, and student minority groups has "taken the initiative" and is meeting "very informally" to discuss these is-

Rush, quality of gay student life discussed

By Mathews M. Cherian

Representatives of the Office of the Dean for Student Affairs (ODSA) discussed undergraduate living conditions and the quality of life for MIT's gay community with student leaders and other concerned students Wednesday.

The meeting was the last of four organized by the Dean's Office to elicit student opinion on issues of campus life in preparation for the Corporation Visiting Committee on Student Affairs' review of the ODSA in February.

The Dean's Office invited leaders of independent living groups, dormitories, gay groups, and religious groups for the open discussion. Over 40 students attended the meeting.

The first discussion centered on undergraduate living conditions. Students voiced concern about the living group selection process.

One freshman said, "It was very difficult to choose where I wanted to live for the next four years." One week is "much too short" to determine pledges, a fraternity member said, adding that he was "disenchanted" with Residence/Orientation week because it forced everyone to be "fake for three days."

Students suggested that freshmen spend their first semester in Institute housing to allow them to get a better idea of where they wanted to live. They could then pledge a fraternity if they wished.

Associate Dean for Student Affairs Robert A. Sherwood responded that the idea has been considered many times, but the problem of housing all the freshmen for the first semester, before

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sues, he said.

Perkins has not yet met with the group, but said he would "welcome the opportunity to work with them and hear from them."

Perkins hopes to appoint an acting OME director to allow more time for the search process. He has a candidate under consideration, he said, but declined to release the candidate's name.

While Perkins admits the replacement process has taken longer than expected, he defended his decision to reconsider the objectives of the OME. "The easiest thing in the world," he said, "would have been to go ahead and appoint a new director."

Election Analysis

What did Reagan win in '84 landslide?

By Robert E. Malchman and Martin Dickau

House will prove to be Reagan's major hurdle

President Ronald W. Reagan, reelected Tuesday by a 59-41 percent popular margin, will find the new 99th Congress less persuadable than the American electorate.

The Republicans' apparent 14-seat gain in the House will not suffice to give Reagan the working majority he enjoyed before the 1982 mid-term elections. His party lost 26 House seats in that election.

The Democrats will probably hold a 254-181 seat House majority. The Republicans lost two seats in the Senate and now lead 53-47. Conservative Sen. Roger W. Jepsen, R-Iowa, lost to liberal Democratic Rep. Tom Harkin. Moderate Sen. Charles H. Percy, R-Ill., lost to another liberal Democratic congressman, Paul Simon.

Rep. Albert Gore, Jr., D-Tenn., a moderate, defeated conservative Victor H. Ashe for the seat of retiring Senate Majority Leader Howard H. Baker, Jr.

Moderate Democratic Sen. Walter D. Huddleston of Kentucky lost to conservative Republican Judge A. Mitchell McConnell.

The president will continue to face stiff opposition to his domestic agenda of tax cuts, social spending cuts, and defense spending increases and his foreign policy of intervention in the Middle East and Central America.

Reagan's prospects look even bleaker farther down the road. Republicans account for 22 of the 34 senators facing re-election in 1986. The party occupying the White House usually suffers during mid-term elections, especially during a president's second term.

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Reagan's landslide not a mandate on policies

Tuesday's election, while a resounding personal endorsement of President Ronald W. Reagan, does not represent a similar endorsement of his policies.

Republicans apparently gained only 14 seats in the House and actually lost two Senate seats — certainly not the expected residue of a presidential landslide.

The major retrenchment in political values claimed by conservative Republicans has not trickled down to candidates below the head of the ticket.

If any policy mandate may be gleaned from the election, it is one for the *status quo*. That the groundswell of support for the head of the ticket did not include the rest of it, shows that the voters chose not to embrace wholeheartedly the Reagan vision of the future.

That the electorate rejected Democratic New Dealer Walter F. Mondale shows that neither does support exist for the vision of the past.

In an election where candidates of the two major parties have not since 1972 been so clearly divided along ideological lines, voters made their decisions based on the personality of the candidates.

Mondale projected no clear image of his personality; Reagan projected no clear image of his specific policies. Reagan's magnetic charm and nice-guy image contrasted sharply with Mondale's bland seriousness and lack of fire.

People like Ronald Reagan, the man. Few doubt his sincerity, his honesty, or his desire to do what he thinks is best for the American

(Please turn to page 2)

SIPB short on money; mismanagement cited

By Craig Jungwirth

The Student Information Processing Board (SIPB) is "concerned that it is going to run out of money before the end of the term," according to Chairman Jon Rochlis '85.

Toward the middle of both fiscal 1983 and fiscal 1984, the Institute appropriated additional funds for SIPB, Professor James D. Bruce SM '60, director of Information Systems (IS), said. "In fiscal year 1985, SIPB has been spending assuming that there would be an increment [in their budget]."

SIPB has been "spending unbelievable amounts of money... at a furious rate," Rochlis added. He said he doubted, however, that the fiscal problems will be permanent.

A notice dated Oct. 26 and posted last month on MULTICS stated, "The SIPB's budget is getting tight.

"If we continue to spend money at the rate we have been," the notice warned, "we may have to

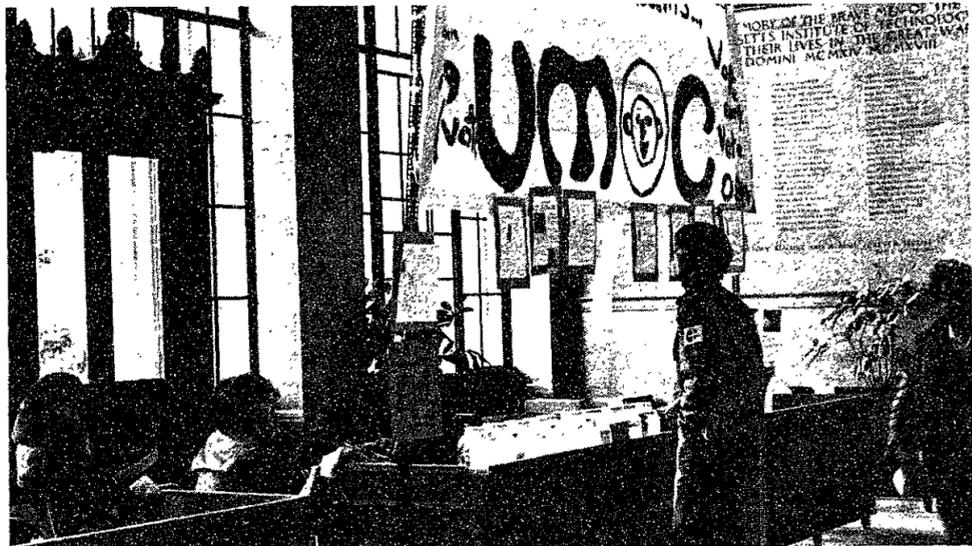
limit access to the computer during the more expensive times of the day... If our users voluntarily limit such usage, we will not have to impose arbitrary restrictions."

Rochlis said the notice was entered on the system by Pat Jennings '85, vice chairman of SIPB. The intent of the message was "to discourage people from using that prime time," Rochlis said. "I was not thrilled about [the message]... but I would not be tremendously concerned by it," Rochlis added.

"Budgetary decisions [for student computing] were made... on the basis that all undergraduates who wanted Athena accounts [this year] would get them," Bruce said. "This was clearly unrealistic."

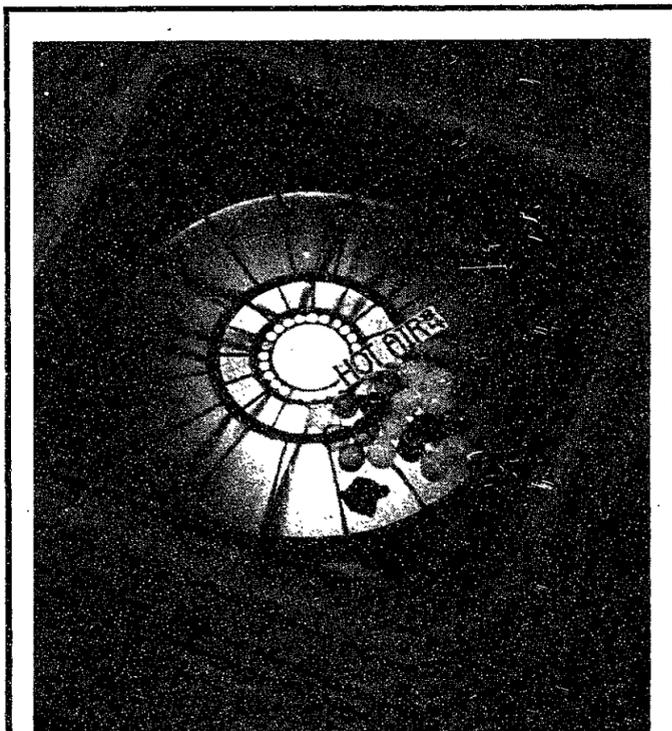
"I believe that there are several options that do not chop off the computational resources the students are depending upon," Bruce added. He agreed that there will be a decrease in the de-

(Please turn to page 2)



Tech photo by Elliott Williams

Today is the last day you can cast your vote for UMOC; drop by lobby 10 and vote for your favorite character on campus. All donations will go to Rosie's Place.



Tech photo by Gregory D. Troxel

Hackers stated their opinion on the American political process last Tuesday by deploying "hot air" balloons under the little dome in lobby 7.

SIPB money dwindling

(Continued from page 1)

mand for MULTICS time when Athena goes on-line." MULTICS, a division of IS in Building 11, is the system traditionally used by SIPB.

"I assumed [the students in charge of SIPB] knew what they were doing," Bruce said. "I have a hard time placing blame on anyone [for the overspending]," Bruce added.

SIPB members spoke to Bruce last month to get his views on SIPB's financial situation, Rochlis said. They discussed possibility of increasing SIPB's budget and of imposing restrictions on computer usage during prime time — Monday through Friday, 9 am to 5 pm. Also discussed was the dedication of the Student Center Athena cluster to student use.

"I'm really encouraged to see the dedication of the Student Center cluster to student use . . .

and I would like to see most of SIPB's users shift to the Student Center cluster," Rochlis said. "I look forward to a decrease in use of MULTICS in the spring term.

"At the moment, [the dedication of the Student Center Library Athena cluster to] student use is hypothetical," said Cecilia R. D'Oliveira '77, manager of user services for Project Athena. Student use, however, is "under very high consideration by the Athena Executive Committee," she added.

An announcement of the dedication of the cluster would be made "within the next month," D'Oliveira said, but "implementation would be much later . . . after the spring term started."

Beginning next week, the Student Center Library Athena cluster will be used for training classes sponsored by Project Athena, according to D'Oliveira.

"The environment for student computing at MIT is about to change drastically," Bruce said. "The SIPB model was a model that worked when computers were a scarce resource. I'm not sure that we need the same sort of structure, but I don't know."

"This is the first year that we have given up any pretense of keeping office hours," Rochlis said. Rochlis said that there are 20 students active in SIPB "who have as heavy a workload as everyone else does." The office is "not a pleasant place to be . . . because we're basically swamped."

The identity of SIPB is "not clear beyond the next one, two, or three years," Rochlis said. "One of its primary roles, distributing computer accounts, is going to go away. I don't know if SIPB will go away when that role goes away."

The Tech Coop will be open Monday, November 12 1 — 5:30 PM.



Election decided on images

(Continued from page 1)

people. Exactly what Reagan thinks is best for the country does not seem to matter to them.

Mondale spoke on the deficit, on taxes, on foreign policy, on defense spending, on the environment, on social spending, and on a myriad of other important areas; yet he found the public was not listening to him.

Mondale, who built his campaign against Reagan on differences over the issues, failed to convince the electorate of major flaws in the *status quo*.

The election may be the final rejection of the New Deal Democratic politics of the past. The New Deal coalition has not worked for the Democrats since 1964.

The party split in 1968 over the Vietnam war, and Hubert H. Humphrey led the Old Politics wing to defeat in the presidential election.

George S. McGovern of the New Politics wing captured the nomination four years later, but Richard M. Nixon crushed him in the election. Jimmy Carter

won in 1976 as an outsider and lost that year in 1980.

The Democrats know they must find a new rallying ideology, as the Republicans did in 1980. The more clearly that ideology is expressed, the better the Democrats' chances in 1988.

The conservative Republicans' ideology will face its most serious test in 1988 when its most popular spokesman retires from office. Then analysts may be able to assess whether a retrenchment really did occur.

GOP future is with economy

(Continued from page 1)

Reagan has demonstrated in the past, however, his ability to push many of his ideas through an unfriendly Congress. The president is a skilled politician, willing to bring his case directly to the people to sway a few key congressional votes.

The two issues that propelled Reagan to his second term — the economic recovery and a promise not to raise taxes — may boomerang on his party in 1986.

The federal deficit and interest rates are related, contrary to Reagan's assertion in his second debate with Walter F. Mondale. As

the deficit rises, the government must either borrow money or print it. Borrowing money causes interest rates to rise; printing it causes inflation to rise.

Either rise could cause a recession worse than the 1982 downturn. Republicans on Capitol Hill may have to select the least of several evils: raising taxes against Reagan's promise, suffering a recession, or cutting spending.

The president maintains, however, that an expanding economy will generate additional revenues

through the existing tax structure and that the deficit will decline on its own.

If Reagan's expectations for the economy are not fulfilled, Democrats in both houses can sit back and wait for a Republican bloodbath in 1986.

Reagan's best hope for leaving his conservative stamp on the country lies with the Supreme Court. Five justices are over 75 years of age.

Appointments of young, conservative activists like Justice Sandra Day O'Connor would affect the Court into the next century. Conservatives could advance their agenda against the wishes of Congress and the president, as the liberal Warren Court did in the 1950s.

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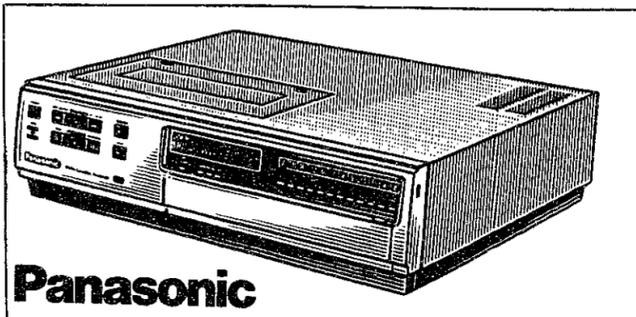
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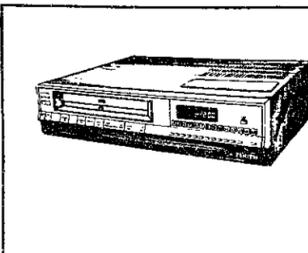
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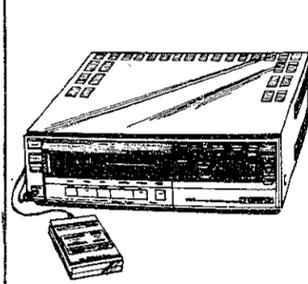


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news roundup

World

Nicaragua denies Soviet fighters arrival — The leftist Sandinista government denied Wednesday that it was about to receive Soviet MIG21 jets, or any other Soviet high-performance fighters. Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto Brokman said a Soviet freighter arrived earlier that morning and was unloading cargo there, but that it contained nothing which would endanger the peace of nearby nations. The United States had warned Moscow on Tuesday that it would not tolerate the delivery of such planes.

Nation

Mondale takes a bow — Walter Mondale said in a quiet news conference Wednesday that he would end his political career and return to Washington to work as a lawyer. "I think just as you have to know when to get into politics in terms of elective office, it takes strength to know when it's time to do something else," he said. He acknowledged that his proposal to reduce the Federal budget deficit with a tax increase had been politically unwise, and that he failed to present a coherent message during the campaign. "From the very beginning of my campaign I seemed to have trouble convincing young Americans that I had that vision of the future that I believe I had," he said.

Bell resigns from Cabinet — Education Secretary Terrell H. Bell has decided to resign the post he took in 1981, with a mandate calling for the abolishment of his department within a year. The resignation makes Bell the first member of the Reagan Cabinet to decline serving a second term. Bell will depart his post on Dec. 31 and is expected to become a professor at the University of Utah.

Garn to become first flying public official — The National Aeronautics and Space Administration confirmed Wednesday that Republican Sen. Jake Garn of Utah accepted an invitation to become the first public official to fly in a space shuttle. Garn is chairman of a subcommittee which oversees space agency budgets. A specific flight has not yet been scheduled, but there were indications that it could be as early as May, 1985.

Local

Solano defeated in state race — Republican Joseph H. Solano '85 lost his bid for state representative in Boston's Eighth Suffolk District to incumbent Thomas J. Valley. Solano, who is in the Department of Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering, polled 3868 votes in Tuesday's election, while Democrat Valley garnered 8339.

Sports

Celtics sink Clippers 135-108 — It was a death in the Garden. Cries of "Beat LA," a chant normally saved for Magic and Co., thundered down upon the Clippers, who recently moved to Los Angeles. To make matters worse, the Clippers faced the Boston Celtics without the duties of their center, the forever ailing Bill Walton. Result: a lop-sided 135-108 win for the Gang Green. "Everything we did just happened to be the right move," said guard Dennis Johnson. The Celts shot 57 percent and outrebounded the visitors by 12.

People

I Was a Teenage Judge — Voters in Belen, New Mexico, ignored the age question when they elected 18-year-old Matt Otero as Valencia County probate judge. "I plan to get a law degree and keep on in politics — become governor of New Mexico," Otero said modestly. His opponent was the venerable Felice Padilla, who is 75 years old.

Weather

Clouds take sunshine out of weekend — Today should see a mixture of clouds and sunshine, with highs 42-46. Saturday should be mild with variable cloudiness. Although showers are possible Saturday night, it should remain mostly dry throughout the weekend.

Ellen L. Spero
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opinion

Column/Kimberly B. Sklar

A new address and 20/20 hindsight

Over the summer when my high school friends were exchanging college addresses, I had nothing to give them.

"What do you mean you don't have an address? When will you get one?" they would ask.

"Well, for the first week you can write to me at MIT Room 24-007. That's every freshman's temporary address. After that, I'll be getting new housing."

"Where are they housing you temporarily?"

"I'll find out when I get there."
"Sounds like a pain," they'd say.

I'd nod. "Yeah."

Then R/O Week started and it was fun. But the moving around seemed so foolish. I could have had an extra week of vacation and avoided the whole thing if MIT had just been like every other school in the country I knew of. It seemed that it would have made so much more sense to just give people roommates and assign them housing.

"In the long run, you'll be glad they do it this way," the upperclassmen would say. I didn't think so. I was sick of looking at dorms. I was sure that I would have been able to get along with

almost any roommate and no living group could be too bad.

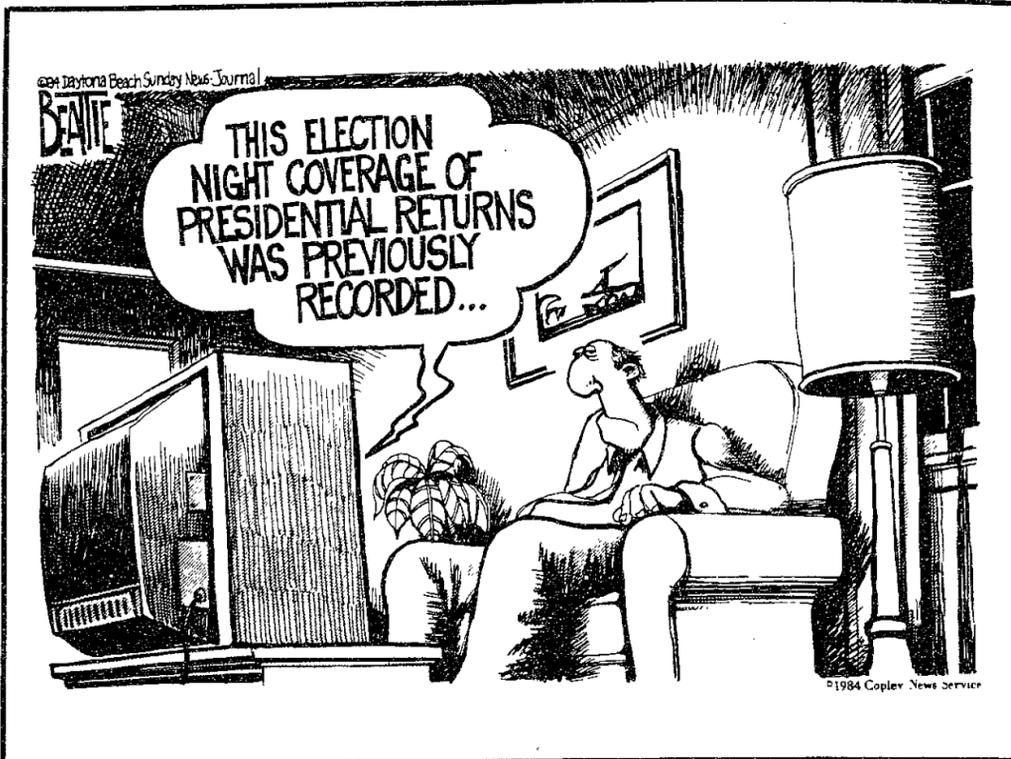
Now that I have the 20/20 vision of hindsight, I have to admit I was wrong. R/O Week was more than just a good time. It was MIT's unique, but logical, way of providing housing.

I like my roommate. Sure, it's annoying that she hangs up the *Tech* letters to the editor written about me in our room. But we chose to be roommates. No computer randomly assigned us the same room. We knew we were going to get along.

We like our dorm and we like our room. And we knew we would because we chose it. And because we chose our location within the dorm, it's not luck that we ended up on a floor with people we like.

Maybe moving around during R/O Week was a pain. And living out of a suitcase was barely tolerable. But I think most freshmen will concede now that they really like their housing. They'll tell you it was worth it.

Looking back now, I have to admit the upperclassmen were right. . . I'm glad MIT did it this way.



Column/Will Doherty

Discrimination can be subtle

Last in a three-part series

The other type of discrimination present at MIT which I will discuss is informal discrimination, a more personal sort of discrimination against lesbians and gays. This discrimination occurs on a one-to-one, or small group level, but accumulates over the entire MIT population to constitute a community problem.

Student-student conflicts occur in the classrooms, the bathrooms, the corridors, and the living groups. Although the housing policy does not permit harassment, dormitory and fraternity residents often harass members of their living group because of their sexual orientation.

Some lesbian and gay students end up leaving their living group in hopes that they can find a more suitable living arrangement, a home without harassment. Some fraternities at MIT have pledged recruits, but later refused to accept them as members of the fraternity because they are gay. One fraternity even engaged in a practical joke providing a street demonstration in Central Square calling for the extermination of homosexuals.

The abuse may be verbal or physical. Or it may go completely unspoken.

The most subtle type of discrimination is the discrimination

most often encountered by lesbians and gays. An old friend or a new acquaintance, upon finding out that you are lesbian or gay, may suddenly decide not to call you up any more, or to drop the problem sets like you used to. Although this discrimination is more subtle, it may be even more painful than outright discrimination.

You cannot be certain about this type of discrimination. You can never be sure if the friends or acquaintances have simply decided that they are too busy with school, that they don't like your latest haircut, or that they really can't stand queers.

Student-student discrimination is not the only type of personal discrimination which occurs at MIT. Faculty members and administrators also discriminate, just as the rest of society does, and this discrimination, when directed at students or at professional colleagues, is, in one sense, more serious than discrimination among peers, for the professor or the administrator often exercises authority over students and colleagues. This sort of discrimination interferes with the fairness of their actions on the job. Such discrimination can range from lower grades for equal work, to verbal and physical abuse.

Not many people realize that the potential for sexual harassment among homosexual faculty, administrators, and students exists, just as the potential for heterosexual sex-related harassment does.

Whether or not one believes that the ROTC program, military recruitment, intelligence agency recruitment, or security clearance requirements should continue to exist at MIT and related institutions, the mandate for equal opportunity regardless of sexual orientation should require MIT to enforce existing policy prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. In the extreme situation, MIT may have to end its association with the offending party.

The problem of informal, and more personal, discrimination is long-term. Prejudice against lesbians and gays, just like prejudice burdening women and blacks, requires time and the influx of new generations to decay. And although the MIT community has taken significant steps over the last two decades to demonstrate concern and to significantly improve the situation within the MIT community, MIT has yet to rid itself of discrimination against lesbians and gays.

The Tech

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opinion

Column/Robert E. Malchman

Multiple choice leadership

Welcome to the Reagan Aptitude Test. You have had four years to study the workings of presidential politics for this exam. Try to answer questions quickly and without thinking. Do not worry about mistakes; your press secretary can clarify them tomorrow. If more than one answer to a question is right, pick the one farthest right. You will have one hour to finish and three hours to nap afterward.

Choose the best analogy:

1. Ketchup : Vegetables as
 - a. Ann Burford : Environment Supporters
 - b. Edwin Meese : Attorneys General
 - c. Kenneth Adelman : Arms Controllers
 - d. Ronald Reagan : Consciousness
2. Grenada : Nicaragua as:
 - a. Everywhere Else : Minnesota and D.C.
 - b. Nicaragua : Vietnam
 - c. Nicaragua : Phillipines
 - d. Last Year : Next Wednesday
3. Family Values : Divorcé President as
 - a. Right to Life : Death Penalty
 - b. Constitutionally Mandated Balanced Budget : Record Debts

- c. EPA : EPA
- d. Ending Drug Abuse : Foreign Policy
4. Ronald Reagan : Richard Nixon as
 - a. Walter Mondale : George McGovern
 - b. Covert War : Vietnamization
 - c. Edwin Meese : John Mitchell
 - d. 1 : 1

Pick the word or phrase that means most nearly the same thing:

5. Trickle Down
 - a. The Social Security check is in the mail
 - b. I'll respect you The Day After
 - c. We won't come into your country
 - d. Some of my best friends are . . .
6. George Bush
 - a. Cheerleader
 - b. Water Boy
 - c. Mascot
 - d. Artificial Turf
7. Cabinet
 - a. Sing-Sing
 - b. Kindergarten
 - c. Ringling Bros.
 - d. Bellevue

8. Peace Through Strength
 - a. Monroe Doctrine
 - b. Big Stick
 - c. Manifest Destiny
 - d. My Daddy's Stronger Than Yours

Solve for n in the following equation:

$$73v + 250w + 5x + 1y + 1,000,000,000z = n$$

where v = age in years, w = dead Marines, x = minutes until we start the bombing, y = indicted Cabinet officers and z = deficit in dollars.

- a. n = 4 more years
- b. n = 6 New Right Justices
- c. n = 10,000 brain cells dying each day
- d. n = unknown number of dead in Central America

Reading Comprehension:

"I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States."

The attitude of the speaker can best be described as:

- a. Contemptuous
- b. Humorous
- c. Bewildered
- d. Threatening

STOP! Do not continue. Please.

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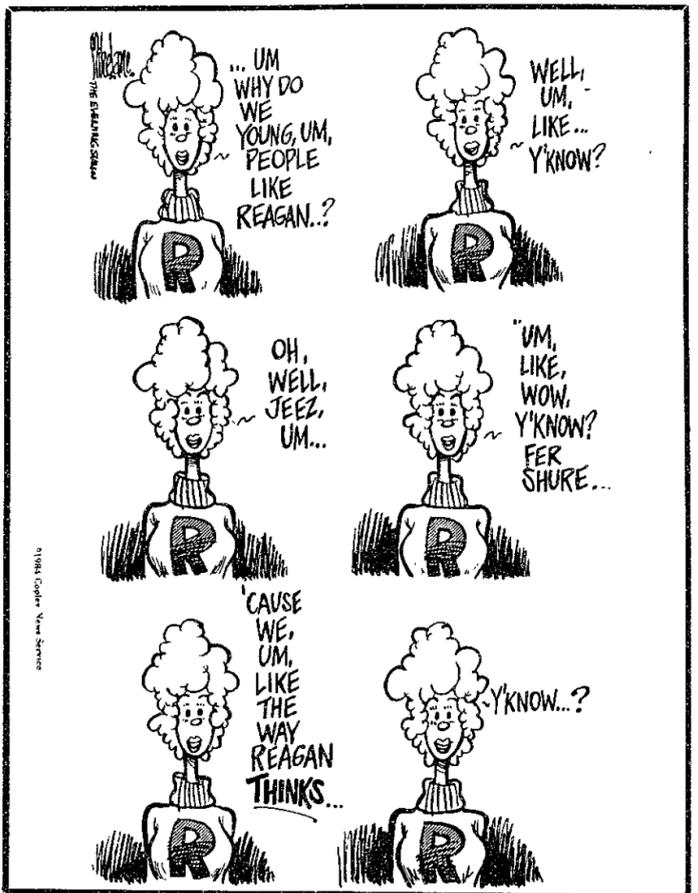
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PHOTO CONTEST



Gregg Lobdell

Many people have told us that they'd like to enter the Technique Photo Contest, but that they simply did not have time.

**So we are extending the contest deadline to next Friday,
November 16, at 5 PM.**

For a copy of the contest rules, see the October 19 issue of *The Tech*, or come by the *Technique* office (Student Center Room 451, 253 - 2980).

TECHNIQUE.

Students discuss life at MIT

(Continued from page 1)
they go into the fraternities, is too complex.

Another suggestion was that fraternities allow sophomores or other upperclassmen to pledge.

Bonnie J. Walters, coordinator of the Committee on the Writing Requirement, urged that more consideration be given international students. Students come to MIT because it is an international school, she said. Many of them, however, are "very disappointed in the first few weeks be-

cause Americans are not very nice to them."

The rest of the meeting focused on the quality of life of MIT's gay community.

The General Coordinator of Gays At MIT (GAMIT) maintained that homosexual students are still discriminated against. Other students agreed.

"People think that if there is a gay person in the house," one student said, "the atmosphere will be destroyed."

The inordinately quick removal

of GAMIT posters was also discussed.

Dean Randolph insisted that the situation has improved. "You don't hear of specific instances of harrasment," he said. "By objective measurement, it is difficult to read that the community has not improved."

Randolph admitted, however, that the problem still exists. "We must work at ways to come to understanding," he said.

notices

Listings

Student activities, administrative offices, academic departments, and other groups — both on and off the MIT campus — can list meetings, activities, and other announcements in *The Tech's* "Notes" section. Send items of interest (typed and double spaced) via Institute mail to "News Notes, *The Tech*, room W20-483," or via US mail to "News Notes, *The Tech*, PO Box 29, MIT Branch, Cambridge, MA 02139." Notes run on a space-available basis only; priority is given to official Institute announcements and MIT student activities. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit all listings, and makes no endorsement of groups or activities listed.

Sunday, Nov. 11

The Children of War Tour, a nationwide event, will feature young people from war-torn areas such as the Middle East, Central America, and Southeast Asia. They will bear witness to the suffering they have endured and bring a message of hope and empowerment to American teenagers. The meeting will be held at 7 pm at the Univeristy Lutheran Church, 66 Winthrop Street, Cambridge. Call Alice B. Lane at 369-9602 for more information.

* * * * *

Many of New England's most distinguished writers will gather to participate in **Twenty-Four Hours for Survival** — a round-the-clock reading for peace. The readings will begin at 6 pm and continue through until 6 pm on Monday. This event will be held at the First Congregational Church, 11 Garden Street, Harvard Square. For more information, write News Reading, 45 Cedar Street, Cambridge, MA 02143.

Monday, Nov. 12

A second meeting of **The Children of War Tour** will be held at 9:30 am at the First Parish in Cambridge, 3 Church Street, Harvard Square. Call Rachel Hass at 437-0005 for more information.

Tuesday, Nov. 13

Weight Training for Women: body conditioning, firming and toning, flexibility, and strength. Classes held at the Bodyworks Gym for Women, 53 River St., Cambridge. Tuesdays and Fri-

days, 7:30-9:00 pm. \$25/4 weeks. Call 491-6050 for more information.

* * * * *

Scuba Club monthly meeting, with special guest speaker **Doc Edgerton**. 7 pm, Room 20E-017. New members welcome. For more information, call Dave Summa at x3-6464.

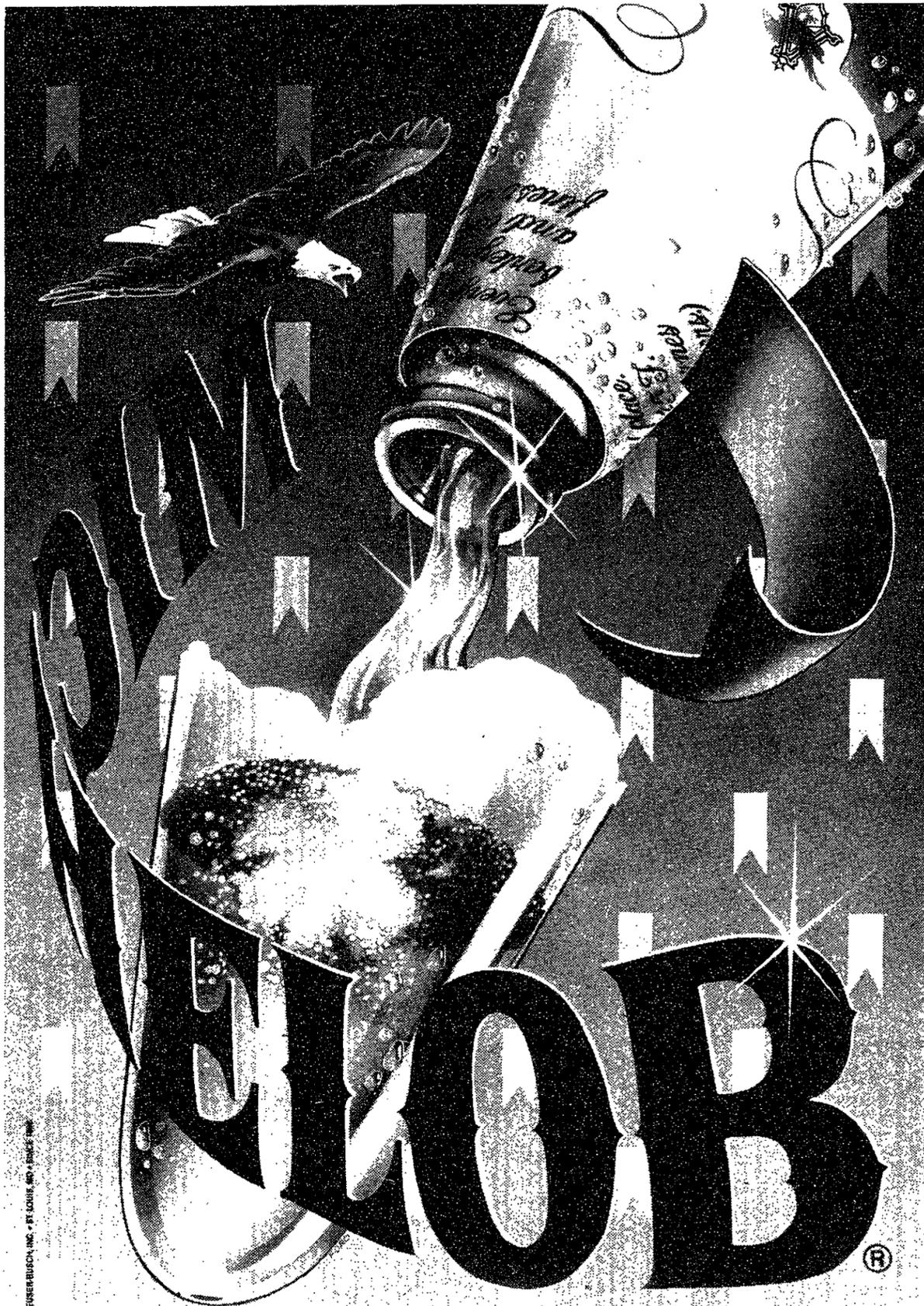
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Friday, Nov. 30

15th Anniversary Figure Skating Exhibition benefiting The Jimmy Fund will star skaters such as Tai Babilonia and Randy Gardner, Brian Boitano, Andreas Sällay and Kristina Regosky, and more. The exhibition will be held 8 pm at the Bright Arena, Harvard University. Other shows will be held on Dec. 1, 8 pm and Dec. 2, 1 pm. Ticket prices: adults, \$10; students, children, and senior citizen, \$5. Group discounts available. For information, call 498-8172.

Ongoing

Learn to relax your body, clear your mind, and increase your concentration. Study better, have more energy, and feel good! **Kundalini yoga** taught by Gururattan Khalsa on Thursday nights. Meet at Burton House dining hall at 5:30; please call Fred Martin or Jeff Tallaksen at 247-0506 or x3-3157 for more information.

Do you like to read? Do you enjoy math? **Become a S*T*A*R volunteer.** School Volunteers of Boston offers orientation and support to college students who have a few hours per week to spend with elementary, middle or high school students in schools convenient to college campuses. For information, call 451-6145 or visit our office at 25 West Street, downtown Boston near Park Street.

The **Chinese Intercollegiate Choral Society** meets Sundays 3-5 pm in W20-491. Anyone who likes to sing and can speak any Chinese dialect is welcome. For further information, call Isabel Chiu at 258-5233.

Students and faculty are cordially invited to flex their vocabularies at the **Boston Scrabble Club** — any Monday evening in the Teachers' Lounge of the Jackson-Mann Community School, Union Square, Allston. The club features "social Scrabble" for nervous newcomers, as well as officially-rated competitive play for the real addict. Club hours are 6:30 to 9:30 pm. For more information, contact P.G. Kaufmann at 784-5325.

For runners looking forward to the numerous marathons this fall but not the arduous solo training sessions, the **MetroParks Running Center in Boston** has an answer. On Sundays at 9 am, runners training for marathons can get together and run long distances of 15 to 22 miles. Open Monday through Friday from 7 am to dusk, the Running Centre offers changing rooms and showers free of charge. For further information, call 523-9746.

Interested in children? Teen-agers? Innovative education? The **Cambridge School Volunteers** needs you as a tutor, classroom aide, big brother or big sister, or a mini-course teacher. Work with

any age student in any subject. Credit may be available. For more information, call 498-9218.

The **MIT Dance Company School of Boston** presents its ninth year of dance education, offering two fifteen week sessions from September to May. MIT continues its extensive Children's Program for ages 3 to 14, as well as teen and adult classes in modern and jazz. Classes run Monday through Saturday with levels ranging from novice to professional. Aerobics is also offered in the evenings. The School is located at 551 Tremont Street in the Boston Center for the Arts. For more information, please call 482-0351.

The **Peace Corps** is offering skill-training for programs utilizing the backgrounds of college graduates with mathematics and science minors. Peace Corps volunteers serve for two years. During their service they receive a generous living allowance, paid travel, training and health care. A post-service readjustment allowance of \$175 per month is paid to each volunteer. For infor-

mation on Peace Corps service, call 223-6366 or 7366, or write **PEACE CORPS**, 1405 McCormack POCH, Boston, MA 02109

Announcements

For international students: The Boston Chamber of Commerce has agreed to send to the various US chambers of commerce throughout the world the resumes of foreign students from member schools interested in returning home to work. Please submit these resumes to Mr. Jonathan Palmer, The Fletcher School, Tufts University, Medford, MA 02155. Please send by Friday, Nov. 16.

A.I.C.U.M. (Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Massachusetts) is attempting to document the activities of its member colleges with public school systems. If, as a member of the MIT Community, you are working with the Boston or Cambridge Public Schools, please call Alan Dyson, x3-7063.

"BLACKS & JEWS: CURRENT RELATIONS & TENSIONS"

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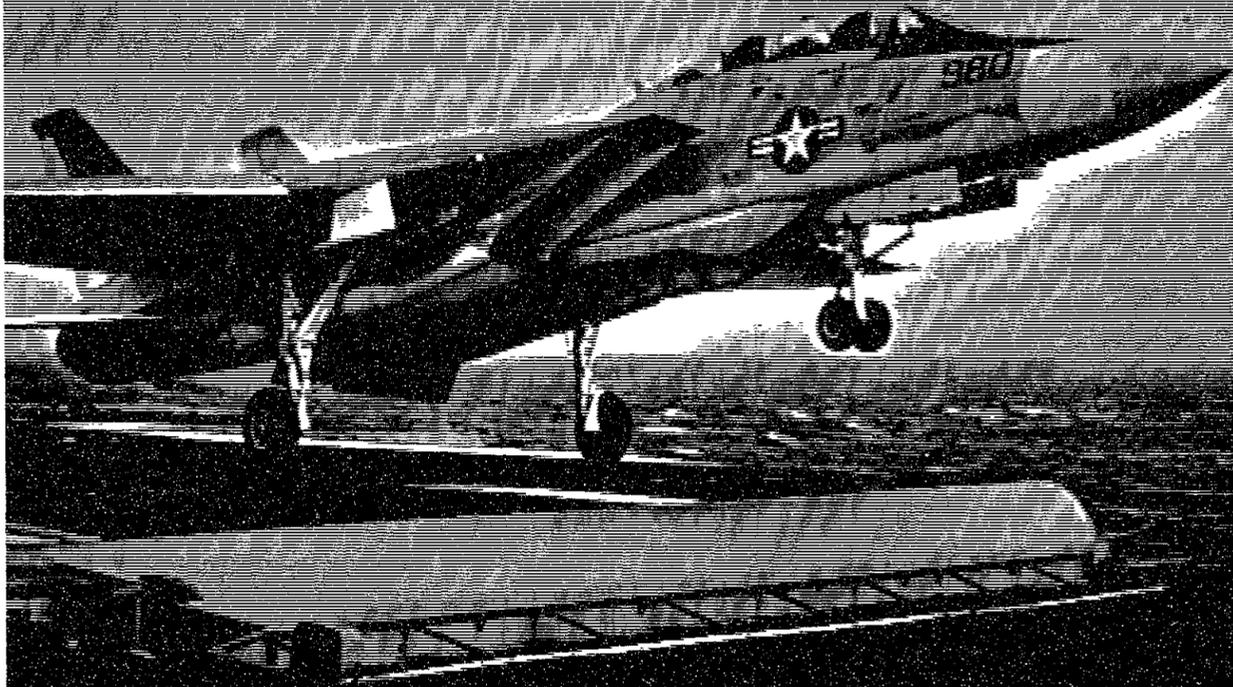
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notices

Wednesday, Nov. 14

Cambridge Forum presents: "Speakout Against Sexual Harassment," with speakers Herbert Hentz, Brandeis University Affirmative Action administrator; Freida Klein, Employee Relations Manager with Lotus Development, Inc.; and Nan Stein, from the Mass. Dept. of Education. 8 pm at 3 Church Street, Harvard Square. Free.

Did you grow up in a home where alcoholic drinking was a problem for your parents? If you feel that their problem has had its effects on you, too, please join our support group for adult children of alcoholics. 8 pm at W2A, 312 Memorial Drive. If you have any questions, call Barbara Smith-Moran at x3-2983.

Thursday, Nov. 15

A seminar entitled "Integrated Telecommunications", sponsored by the Communications Forum, will be held from 3-6 pm in Kresge Auditorium, MIT. Panelists will include representatives of companies bidding on the integrated telecommunications system planned for MIT. Open to the public.

The Writing Program's 1984 and Counting... science fiction readings series presents Joan Vinge, author of *The Snow Queen*, and "Eyes of Amber". Ms. Vinge, winner of the Hugo Award for excellence in science fiction, will read from and speak on her work. 8 pm, Room 10-250. Free.

Monday, Nov. 26

Want to lose weight using hypnosis and relaxation techniques? Beth Israel Hospital is running a 10-session hypnosis and weight loss group program. New group starts today. Call 735-4767 for details.

Tuesday, Nov. 27

A career workshop entitled "Starting Your Own Consulting Business", will be held from 7:30-9:30 pm at the Jewish Vocational Service. Fee: \$15. To pre-register, contact Meryl Glatt 723-2846 or Emily Kirshen 965-7940.

Wednesday, Nov. 28

Through hypnosis, relaxation techniques, and the use of new Nicorette gum, Beth Israel Hospital's Quit Smoking Program helps participants master the art of controlling the urge. New

group starts today. Call 735-4767 for more information.

A seminar entitled "Careers in Publishing and Print Media", sponsored by the Jewish Vocational Service, will be held from 7:30-9:30 pm at Gosman Jewish Community Campus, 333 Nahanton Street, Newton Centre. Admission is \$5. For more information, contact Gail Liebhaber at 965-7940.

Professor James A. McCloskey, Dept of Medicinal Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Utah, will speak on "Techniques based on Mass Spectrometry and Chromatography for Analysis of Nucleic Acid Constituents." The seminar will be held at 4:15 pm, Room 220, Mugar Hall, Northeastern University.

"Autobiography: Revealer of Self and Society?" is the theme of this week's Cambridge Forum with Harvard Professor, Jerome Hamilton Buckley, author of the *The*

Turning Key. 8 pm, 3 Church Street, Harvard Square. Free.

Thursday, Nov. 29

A seminar entitled "Media Diplomacy", sponsored by the Research Program on Communications Policy, will be held from 4-6 pm in the Marlborough Lounge, Room 37-252, 70 Vassar St., Cambridge. Speakers will be Dan Mica, Chairman, House Subcommittee on International Operations; Michael Schneider, U.S. Information Agency; and Hewson Ryan, Director, Murrow Center of Public Diplomacy, Tufts University. Open to the public.

Professor James A. McCloskey, Dept. of Medicinal Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Utah, will speak on "The Structure Elucidation of New Naturally Modified Nucleosides: Dietary Factor of Transfer DNA." The seminar will be held at 4:15 pm, Hurtig Hall, Northeastern University.



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ARTS

Roger Schank's thinking computer

The Cognitive Computer, by Roger Schank with Peter G. Childers; Addison-Wesley, 268 pp., \$17.95.

In tomorrow's world computers will converse in natural language. They will doctor us, offer legal and banking advice. They will teach our children, govern our nations. We will have unlimited information available at our fingertips; mundane jobs will be outlawed. "Intelligent computers should also have some concept of morality."

For Roger Schank, computers are everything. His new book, *The Cognitive Computer*, advocates computerizing every area of our lives. Schank's writing (assisted by Peter G. Childers, a recent Yale graduate) is fluent and enthusiastic. But beneath its racy surface lies a core not of science, but of dogma, of dreaming of a computer world that is his vision. The assumption of the book is that our lives will be improved by "technical progress." That our lives could be diminished by an encroaching technocracy does not seem to concern Roger Schank.

Schank sets up every question so that its answer necessarily lies in the domain of the computer. His writing on natural language rests on unsubstantiated speculation, while his brief tour of "world problems" provides problem definitions narrow enough to preclude victory for a non-computer option. Dark questions such as the dehumanization of society are glibly skated over with statements to the effect that humans are pretty bad to each other as things are. As the first century NBA (National Brainwashing Association) President will type into his terminal, "Computers don't brainwash people. People brainwash people."

The reputation of Roger Schank, head of the Computer Science Department at Yale University, is staked on his work on natural language, and the need for com-

puters to enter discourse in our language forms the main thrust of the book:

"Programming languages allow *only one* way to say things, with a specified syntax and a very limited vocabulary, allowing no ambiguity. Programming languages enable the computer to understand instructions for moving various symbols around, and to decide the order in which such commands should be executed. It is not possible in a programming language to discuss something, voice an opinion or elaborate a point. The representation of abstract ideas and of concrete events is the province of natural languages alone."

Schank is quick to concede that there are certain concepts a computer could never understand, "distinctly *human* things or ideas, such as 'justice,' 'virtue,' 'democracy,' 'beauty,' and so on. . . . No human really understands what any other human means when he uses words such as 'love,' or 'truth,' or 'beauty,' so it indeed would be surprising if a computer could exhibit this level of understanding." But, "Schank points out, 'you don't have to understand what 'truth' or 'beauty' are to ask a traffic cop how to get on the highway. But you do have to have a basic ability to understand the cop's language.'"

Schank agrees that "language understanding is a highly individual process. We understand by relating the meaning of a sentence to our own knowledge and experience. An understanding of context, Schank says, is essential to comprehension of a sentence, and "if we are to understand what the prospects for intelligent computers truly are, and how these computers will affect our lives, we have to look at ourselves, not computers."

Schank then starts to delimit a series of assumptions upon which, as we shall see, his claims necessarily rest. Most important is his three-way typology of understanding since "understanding is really a spectrum



Roger Schank

of relative degrees and levels. The computer, he states, cannot emulate "complete empathy." "Complete empathy," which comes about through shared experiences between people "might approach COMPLETE EMPATHY if the experiences of the individuals involved had caused very similar memory structures to have been created. The two individuals would understand each other in terms of their own memory structures. Given a similar set of goals and beliefs, individuals might process new episodes in much the same ways. . . . The more completely goals, prior beliefs, prior experiences, and memory structures are shared, the better the understanding between two people can be."

Schank defines "the opposite end of the spectrum" as "making sense," which "re-

quires simple recognition of the terms used and the actions performed. It doesn't involve the kind of analysis and identification required for COMPLETE EMPATHY. If a friend came over to your house and suddenly burst into tears, you could MAKE SENSE of the situation by determining that he was sad and questioning him as to why he was sad. You would understand why he was crying at the level of MAKING SENSE, but you would have COMPLETE EMPATHY for him only if you could relate what he told you to very similar memories and experiences of your own. You would have to put yourself in his place by analyzing your experiences relative to his and by allowing your memory structures to change as a result of the new experience.

(Please turn to page 14)

ROLM

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ARTS

Oh, God! not again

Oh, God! You Devil opens today at the Sack Cheri.

I am somewhat apprehensive as I write this review. I expect that at any moment a bolt of lightning might come from the skies to strike me down. The reason for my fear is the heavenly topic of my review, the new movie *Oh, God! You Devil*. Starring George Burns and directed by Paul Bogart, it is the third (and hopefully last) sequel to the "God" series.

As you may recall, the first of this series, titled simply *Oh, God!*, was quite original and mildly entertaining. In *Oh, God!*, John Denver played a Job-like supermarket supervisor chosen by God (George Burns) to be a modern-day prophet.

The sequel to this movie, *Oh, God! Book II* involved the daughter of a separated couple who initiates a mini-crusade in her grade school, with the help of God (again George Burns). Finally we have the

third film in the series: *Oh, God! You Devil* in which George Burns plays both God and his wicked and maligning counterpart, the Devil.

After seeing George Burns portraying God so many times one may begin to identify the two. If this is true for you, then I suggest that you stop reading this review right now because I am about to blaspheme in your eyes.

The number of offers George Burns receives these days from major film companies must be quite limited. Also, since he is almost 90, the repertoire of parts which he can realistically perform is quickly diminishing. Therefore, Warner Brothers has apparently decided to exploit its resources to the limit and churn out another pathetic film where miracles, telephone calls with God, and the Devil's computerized soul-tracking system can all be accepted as givens.

At this point my God-fearing nature is telling me to be careful. I must control my



George Burns² in *Oh, God! You Devil*.

Mechanical classics

Boston Classical Orchestra, conductor Harry Ellis Dickson, pianist Victor Rosenbaum, and the Chorus pro Musica; Faneuil Hall, November 7. Repeats tonight

The last time I attended a concert by the Boston Classical Orchestra was November 5, 1980, the opening event of the Orchestra's first full season. On that occasion I characterized the orchestra's sound as possessing a "mechanical formalism." There is unfortunately little evidence to suggest any improvement in the interim.

The program started with Mozart's Overture to *Le Nozze di Figaro*; the Orchestra's heavy opening led to a cumbersome development and a wooden conclusion.

The thin sound of the strings was betrayed from the start of Mozart's *Piano Concerto No. 21 in C, K. 467*. Soloist Victor Rosenbaum lacked any measure of refinement; his performance was characterized by a vulgar percussiveness. Rosenbaum did not play the second movement badly if one can accept Mozart without feeling. The third movement saw the

most fluent piano playing, but both soloist and orchestra lacked the subtlety which derives only from a true understanding of Mozart.

There was some grace to Mozart's *Symphony in D for Strings, K. 136* and, at last, some depth in the second movement. But the work ended in inelegant confusion.

To end we heard a performance of Beethoven's *Fantasy for Piano, Chorus and Orchestra, Op. 80*, a pale and muddled attempt compared to the brilliance of the Boston Symphony Orchestra's recent Tanglewood performance of this work under Seiji Ozawa. Yes, there were some saving graces: the variation on flute was beautifully played by both flautist and pianist; Rosenbaum played softly here, and his piano wooed the flute in gently rhythm. But the entrance of full orchestra was messy, and the chorus lacked the vision to give the work joy. Perhaps this mediocre orchestra lacks the Fantasy's *Götter-Gunst* (divine favor) and should be folded before further taxpayer dollars are wasted.

Jonathan Richmond

Anderson speaks

Laurie Anderson, lecturing at John Hancock Hall, Nov. 3; United States, Harper and Row Publishers, 1984.

"I am going to talk until the last person walks out. If you want to leave, please do; I have no pride." Thus began Laurie Anderson's Boston Globe Book Festival Lecture last Saturday. As the evening went on, many people took the speaker's urge seriously, emptying about one third of what was initially a full house. Almost predictably, the final part of the lecture was the most interesting.

In only a few years, Laurie Anderson has become America's leading "performance artist", enjoying a vast and growing popularity outside the circles of purported cognoscenti, and known to the general public since her *Superman* climbed the charts. It is hard to explain briefly what her "performance art" consists of: it is literature, theatre, music, video, sculpture and painting all at the same time. It extends over all modern media, crossing the borders of the traditional categories of artistic activity. As Anderson put it herself, though, it is essentially rooted in "the oldest form of art: story telling."

Much of her best-known work was produced in the framework of a huge project called *United States*, a seven-hour performance first given in its entirety in New York, during February 1983. Highlights from its musical score, at the crossroads of new wave and minimal music, appeared on a widely acclaimed record from Warner Bros: *Big Science*. Anderson's second album, *Mister Heartbreak*, was recently released by Warner. Saturday's lecture was occasioned by the release of *United States*, the book about the show.

Anderson started in high spirits, explaining the structure and some of the themes from *United States*, and recon-

structing several of its scenes. As time went on, she switched to a lower gear, ending up with a long-winded speech about the effects of television. But in the question-and-answers section, she finally won the day with her lucid comments on her own place in art and art's place in society and left an impression of both intelligence and amiability.

As for *United States*, it is interesting to compare it with another recent attempt at an overall view of modern civilization: that of Geoffrey Reggio and Philip Glass in the film *Koyaanisqatsi*. The comparison is less odd than it might seem, if only for the unquestionable formal affinity between Anderson's work and that of Glass. *Koyaanisqatsi* displays images of society engulfing its members in intricate patterns of collective behavior, an appropriate background for the outbursts of destructive power which the film conjures up with a sense of eloquence and a touch of pathos. No such rhetoric in *United States*: it is a kaleidoscope of open episodes emphasizing meditation and wit rather than awe. Its music is playful compared to Glass's compelling sequences. Correspondingly, whereas *Koyaanisqatsi* dwells on fascination, humor is dominant in *United States*. It is a humor of odd juxtapositions, of absurd implications, of ridiculous misunderstandings; but above all, it is the humor of *Sesame Street* seen through an adult's eye, which is nothing but taking trivial matters seriously, from the conventions of everyday communication to the rules of the New Jersey Turnpike. And as all genuine humor, it has a disconcerting undertone.

No doubt reading a book, listening to a record, are but meagre substitutes for a live performance. But with Laurie Anderson, the partial experience is infinitely preferable to none at all.

Michael Bos

ire but simultaneously I have to prevent you from parting with \$4.50.

Disillusioned musician Robert Shelton, (played by Ted Wass) is the Dr. Faust of the situation. Driven by the mediocrity of his music career, his inadequacy as a husband, and a hopeless music agent he decides put his career in the hands of another agent: Harry Tophet. Only after signing the contract does he realize that Tophet is the manifestation of Satan. But by this time Sheldon has been transformed into Billy Wayne, (seems IDOListic to me) the latest sensation in the world of rock music.

Suddenly as fame, bed-tropic women, and money appear he forgets his past. After the initial cavorting, however, Billy Wayne grows weary of his new identity and wishes to cancel the contract and return to the old life style of Robert Shelton.

Not easy, when the Devil is the other party in the agreement. Shelton should have known that the Devil does not cancel his contracts. When all seems lost, God comes to Shelton's rescue.

The Hollywood film people must think a

film of this kind is fool-proof commercial venture. Ethics aside, the film is fantastic when one considers the issues. Shelton chooses family over swinging and dignity over fame. Furthermore, there is the overriding idea that the Lord really is out there — protecting us. I am not trying to be irreverent, but I feel it is extremely cliché when man's existential problems are treated mundanely and used to manipulate the public for commercial retribution.

No, do not go to see this film. You would be feeding an industry which hopes to rejuvenate your hopes of salvation by providing a hard-and-fast answer to your personal tribulations. The idea of God as a retired magician who runs around Earth with a fishing cap and rubber sneakers making sure that everything is all right is annoying. I wonder how Burns feels playing God? Strictly from an age point of view, Burns must currently be the actor closest to the Almighty (assuming he has been "good" all of his life). Unfortunately, judging from his lack of discretion in choosing movie-scripts, this time he was bad.

Corrado Giambalvo

The sheepish reporter

Not For Publication, directed by Paul Bartel, opens today at the Sack Copley Place.

It is easy to imagine how a movie with a weak plot, poor acting, and very little humor to speak of can end up being hilariously funny. Everyone has probably seen a supposedly serious movie that was so bad it was funny. *Not For Publication* seems to have produced that kind of humor on purpose. The result is a very strange type of humor that makes you wonder whether the writer and director knew what they were doing.

The movie centers about a dizzy reporter, Lois Thorndyke (a.k.a Lois Thorne). She writes stories for the *New York Informer*, a checkout-line newspaper, about frog-babies and similar non-news. As if that weren't enough, she also works full-time at the campaign headquarters for the incumbent mayor seeking reelection. Also, her mother is a very rich socialite who is sponsoring the campaign of his opponent.

Both candidates are crooks, but the latter is slimy and the former just crazy. The rest of this movie's "plot" is so screwy that it has to be experienced to be believed.

They say that a picture is worth a thousand words, so I am running a picture below this review that best indicates the mood you should be in before you see this movie. The scene depicted takes place in a kinky nightclub called The Bestiary. Enough said.

Overall, it was a funny movie — something of a cross between *Airplane!* and *Eating Raoul* (also directed by Paul Bartel). Go see it sometime. However, you may want to wait until it hits the second run theaters. It is unlikely that anyone could ruin this movie for you by disclosing the ending, and you probably would enjoy the movie more if you only have to pay \$2 or less to see it. It probably isn't worth \$4.50.

Ronald E. Becker



Lois and Barry hoofing it in *Not For Publication*.

Announcements

Notice to certain members of the class of 1985 and 1986: To avoid misunderstandings or complications which might slow progress toward your degree, please file a **Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Concentration Proposal** form with your chosen field office after discussing your program of study with a Field Advisor. This should have been taken care of before the end of your sophomore year. If you have any questions please call the HASS Information Center, x3-4441.

* * * *

The National Research Council plans to award approximately 35 Postdoctoral Fellowships for Minorities in a program designed to provide opportunities for continued education and experience in research for American Indians and Alaskan Natives, Black Americans, Mexican Americans/Chicanos, and Puerto Ricans. Awards will be made in the behavioral and social sciences, humanities, engineering, mathematics, physical sciences, and biological sciences, and for interdisciplinary programs comprised of two or more eligible disciplines. Deadline for submission is January 16, 1985. All inquiries concerning application materials and program administration should be addressed to the Fellowship Office, National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20418.

* * * *

The American Institute of Steel Construction has announced that eight graduate fellowships of \$5000 each will be awarded in 1985 by The AISC Education Foundation. The grants will be awarded to graduate civil or architectural engineering students proposing a course of study toward an advanced degree related to fabricated structural steel. Applicants must be U.S. citizens. Deadline for receiving applications is March 1, 1985. To obtain applications, write AISC Education Foundation, 400 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60611, or call 312-670-2400.

* * * *

All students interested in **applying to law school** for fall '85 should make an appointment in the Preprofessional Advising Office. Phone Ann at x3-4737 or stop by Room 12-170.

* * * *

The **Christian Science Monitor** is sponsoring an **essay contest** challenging its readers to come up with possible scenarios that could lead to world peace in the next 25 years. Students and faculty at colleges and universities around the country are also invited to participate. Participants might consider such factors as economic conditions, the role of moral leadership and world armaments. Essays will be judged on the feasibility of the ideas they contain and will be expected to show a knowledge of the framework of international relations in the world today and the process by which those relations are bet-

tered. Entries of not more than 3,000 words in English, French, German, or Spanish will be accepted. The best three will be printed in *The Christian Science Monitor*. Entries should be postmarked not later than December 31, 1984 and sent to PEACE CONTEST, The Christian Science Monitor, One Norway Street, Boston, MA 02115.

* * * *

The **National Research Council** announces the **1985 Postdoctoral, Resident, and Cooperative Research Associateship Programs**

for research in the sciences and engineering to be conducted in behalf of 21 federal agencies or research institutions. Approximately 250 full-time associateships will be awarded on a competitive basis for research in chemistry, engineering, and mathematics, and in the earth, environmental, physical, space, and life sciences. Most of the programs are open to both US and non-US nationals, and to both recent Ph.D. holders and senior investigators. Awards are made for one or two years with

stipends beginning at \$23,350 a year for Ph.D.'s and an individual determination for senior associates. Postmark deadline must be no later than January 15, 1985. Information on specific research opportunities and federal laboratories, as well as application materials, may be obtained from Associateship Programs, Office of Scientific and Engineering Personnel, JH 608-D3, National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20418, (202) 334-2760.

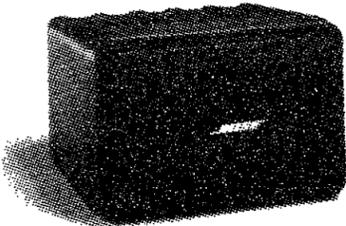
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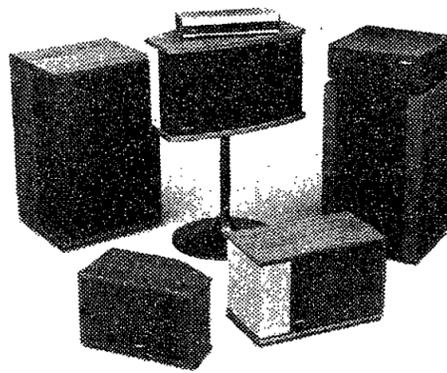
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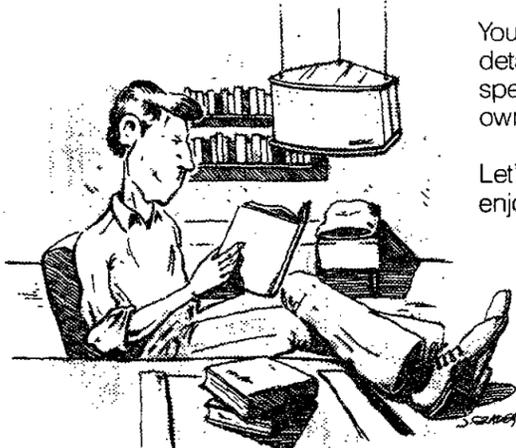


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notices

Announcements

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) announces the availability of scholarships for students and faculty members: **German Studies Summer Seminar at the University of Marburg** during June/July 1985. This 4-week course is designed for faculty members and, in exceptional cases, Ph.D. candidates. The seminar provides intensive language courses, seminars and lectures on political, social and economic aspects of contemporary Germany. In addition, meetings with representatives of professional groups, and excursions to places of interest are on the agenda. **Deutschlandkundlicher Sommerkurs at Regensburg University.** This course offers a 6-week German Studies program providing language instruction and concentrating on historical, cultural and economic aspects of contemporary Germany. Students from all fields with at least junior status and a good working knowledge of German are eligible. All

application deadlines are January 31, 1985. For further information and application forms, please contact German Academic Exchange Service, 535 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1107, New York, NY 10017 or call 212-599-0464.

The National Consortium for Graduate Degrees for Minorities in Engineering, Inc. (GEM) is now accepting applications for its Graduate Fellowship Program which will provide one hundred-fifty awards to minority students in engineering. Candidates for participation must be American Indian, Black American, Mexican American, or Puerto Rican. Each fellowship pays full tuition and fees at a member university and a stipend of \$5000 for the academic year, as well as provides summer employment at a member-research laboratory. Deadline for application material for the 1985-86 fellowship year is December 1, 1984. For further information contact: Graduate Engineering for Minorities, P.O. Box 537, Notre Dame, Indiana 46556.

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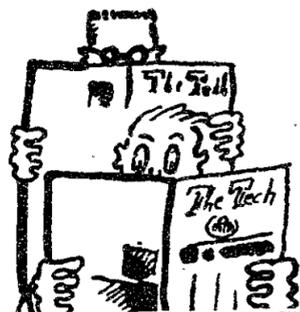


To qualify, you must be a U.S. citizen between 19 and 27 years of age, working toward or have earned a bachelor's or master's degree. You must also have completed a minimum of one year each of calculus and calculus-based physics with a "B" average or better.

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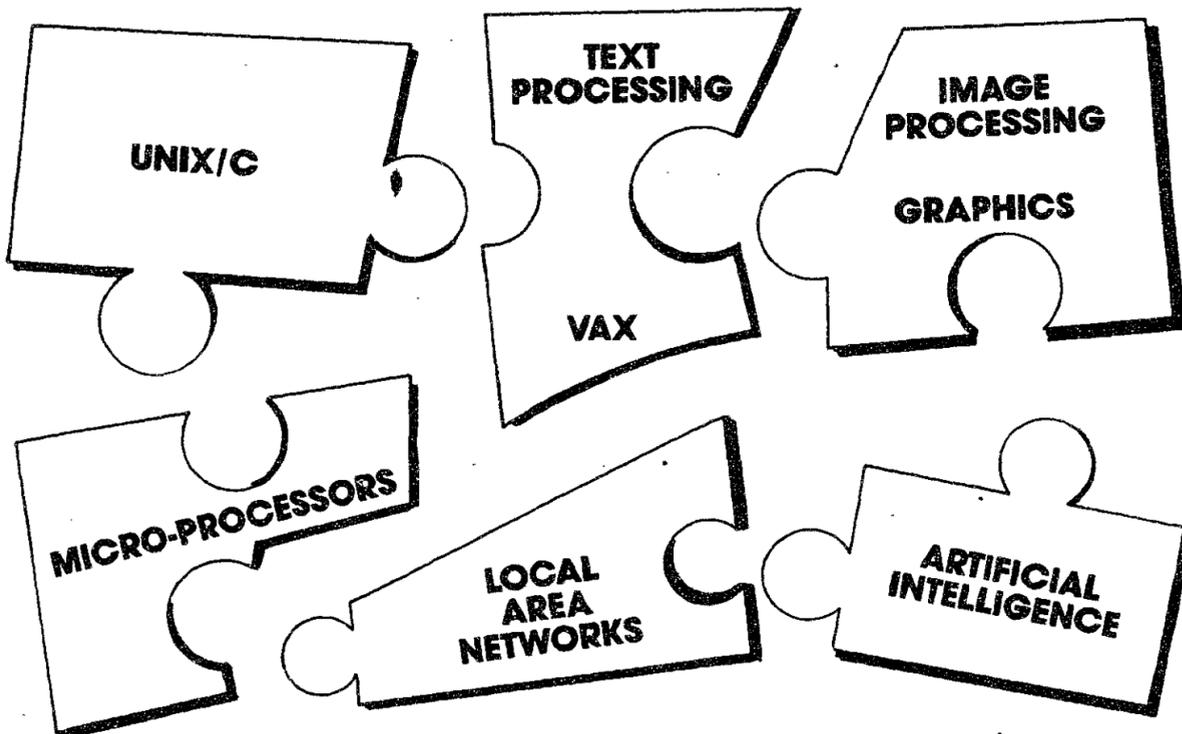
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ARTS

The thinking machine

(Continued from page 10)

There are things which people don't understand, Schank says. "Computers will fail to understand humans in the same way that an unmarried aunt might fail to understand her niece's desire to get a divorce. When you read a story about terrorism, you don't feel that just because you and the terrorist share the feature of being human that you really understand the terrorist's actions or his views. Having past experiences that involve human feelings facilitates important dimensions of your understanding of a story, allowing you to experience it in your own way. Likewise, an intelligent computer would have its own particular set of experiences of reading and remembering terrorism stories, in addition to the principles and details of international terrorism which have been programmed into it." This, Schank says, is an example of "Cognitive Understanding" at work, a mid-ground between "making sense" and "complete empathy" and something we can expect to see developed in computers over the next ten years.

"Any program that effectively explains the steps it has gone

through understands at the level of MAKING SENSE. At the level of COGNITIVE UNDERSTANDING the program must be able to explain why it came to the conclusions it did, what conclusions or lines of reasoning it rejected and why it rejected them, and how previous experience influenced its response."

Schank then proceeds to tell us how the computer might represent these concepts. He is critical of linguistic approaches to natural language parsing which simply tear sentences apart and analyze them in terms of each individual word. The whole is greater than the sum of the parts, he says, and what counts is not the word but the knowledge, the concept behind that word. "An understanding system, whether human or computer, has to depend on a conceptual representation of events, not on particular words or sentences. And, while there are a huge number of words, it seems that human endeavour can be organized along the lines of a

small number of concepts."

Schank's Yale laboratory thus represents "possession-changing-action" with the concept "ATRANS" which triggers rules "that include the set of inferences associated with ATRANS."

On the basis of such primitive concepts the computer can use "scripts," "prepackaged sets of expectations, inferences and knowledge that are applied in common situations, like a blueprint for action without the details put in." Schank shows how a computer can "understand" the act of eating a meal in a restaurant through the use of a restaurant script. Scripts are specialized, Schank admits, but so are people: you would not ask someone in one field about another subject of which he has no knowledge.

Professor Roger Schank will be giving a public lecture at MIT on Thursday, November 15, and this review will be concluded in the November 16 issue of The Tech.

Jonathan Richmond

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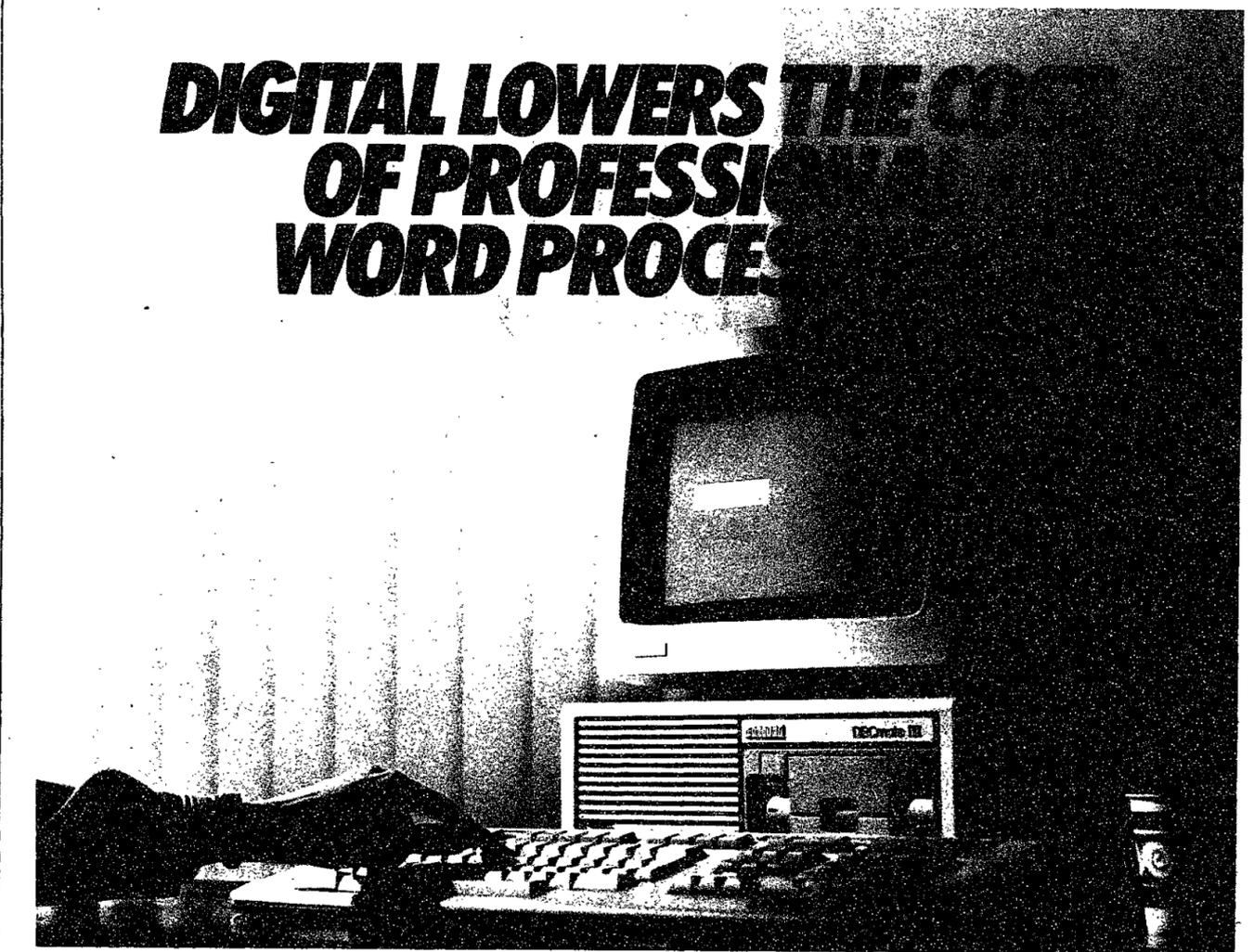
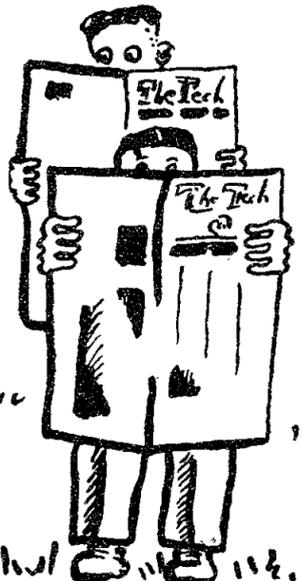
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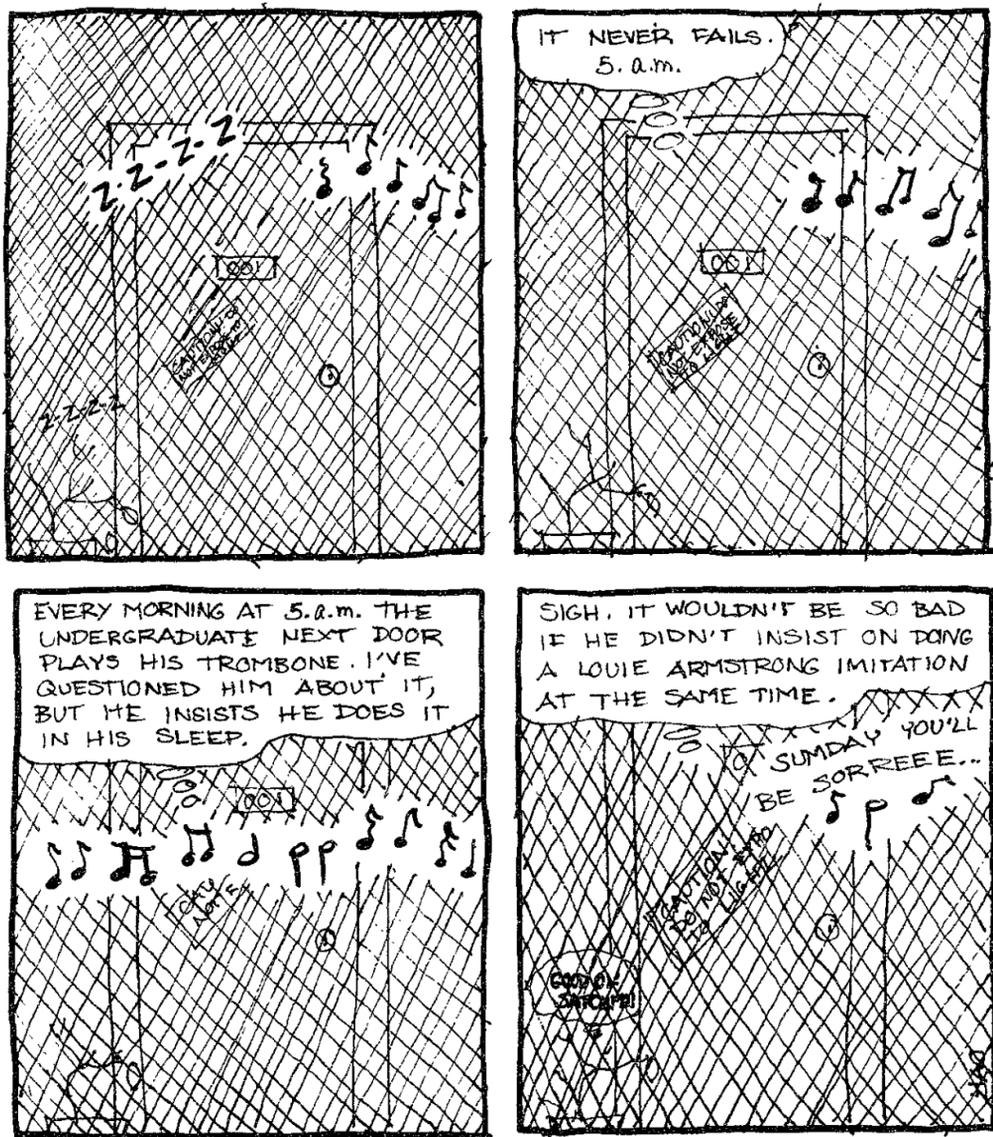
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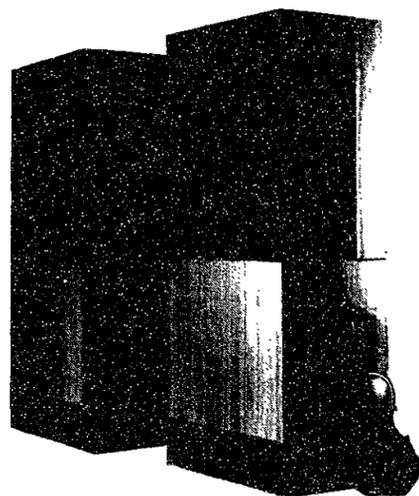


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Who:

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When:

Tuesday, November 13 & Wednesday, November 14 — 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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MIT Career Planning and Placement Center (Room 12-170).

What:

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sports

Women's fencing will include épée

(Continued from page 20)
lost its top two fencers, but "we have some new people coming up," Sollee said.
"We've been exposing them to high-grade competition" in an intensive effort at preparing them for the regular season, he added. "We'll see if it pays off."
Sollee said he believes "foil and épée will have to carry the burden" if the team as a whole is to succeed. "We expect it to be a winning season."
The women's team lost last year's New England Foil Champion, Anne Huber '86, to crew. Ann Zabudoff '86 will fill her spot, Sollee said.
Sollee said he expects a lot

from team captain Penina Axelrad '85. "She's come a long way in three years," he said. "She's a terrific leader," he added, despite not having as much exposure to fencing as Zabudoff.
Freshman Linda Ystueta has been "beating up on varsity people," Sollee said. "We're expecting some first-class fencing from her."
"We should have another good winning season," he added.
The Fédération Internationale d'Escrime, the international fencing governing body, decided this year to sanction women's épée, besides the traditional foil. Several members of the women's team

have taken up the weapon and will compete against male épéeists on local club teams.
The NCAA does not sanction women's épée, Sollee said. The team has decided to fence the weapon anyway, Sollee added, because "this is our chance to start even with the Europeans."
European fencing, with its long tradition, is often considered better than American fencing. But no one has a tradition in women's épée, Sollee said, adding that he wants to prove American fencers "are as good as, or even better than the Europeans."

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comics

The Legend of Fred

By Jim Bredt

THE TIME HAS COME FOR YET ANOTHER INSTALLMENT OF THE INDEFATIGABLE

LEGEND OF FRED



MIKE MEK MAN WAS BORN AT MIT IN 1980 IN THE INDUCED APTITUDE LAB. HE REALIZED THAT UNLESS HE SEARCHED EVERY CORRIDOR HE WOULD DIE AT MIT IN 1984.

BUT HOW CAN I BE SURE THAT I GO DOWN EVERY SINGLE ONE?



THIS WOULD MAKE A GOOD MATH PROBLEM BUT THE PLOT NEEDS TO MOVE ALONG...

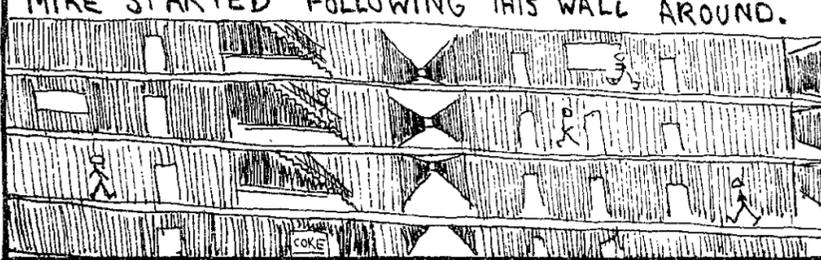
CRIPES!

VETERAN'S DAY ALREADY!

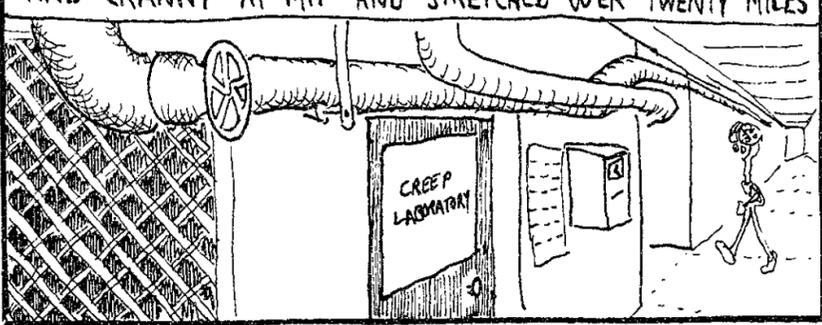
... MIT IS ACTUALLY ONE WALL!



ALL OF THE CORRIDORS AT MIT ACTUALLY CONSIST OF ONE SINGLE WALL WHICH WRAPS AROUND ON ITSELF UP AND DOWN STAIRS AND BY DOORS. MIKE STARTED FOLLOWING THIS WALL AROUND.

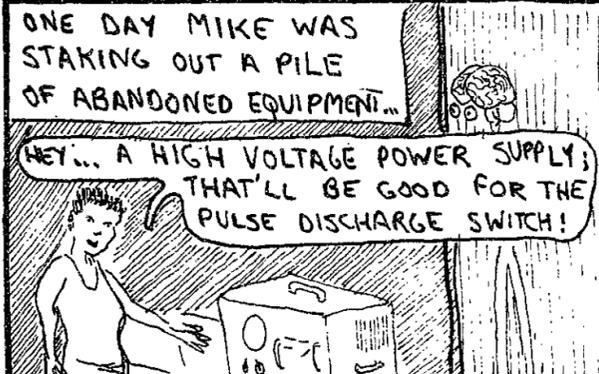


MIKE FOUND THAT THIS WALL TOOK HIM TO EVERY NOOK AND CRANNY AT MIT AND STRETCHED OVER TWENTY MILES



ONE DAY MIKE WAS STAKING OUT A PILE OF ABANDONED EQUIPMENT...

HEY... A HIGH VOLTAGE POWER SUPPLY; THAT'LL BE GOOD FOR THE PULSE DISCHARGE SWITCH!



HE FOLLOWED HER THROUGH OBSCURE HALLWAYS



UNTIL SHE WENT INTO A ROOM.

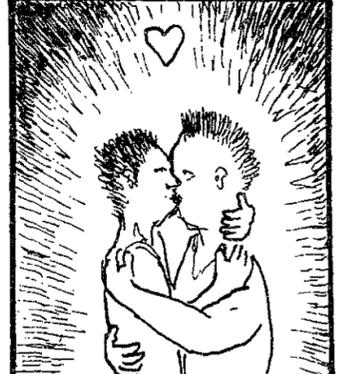


I FOUND A HIGH VOLTAGE POWER SUPPLY!

GREAT! I'VE ALMOST GOT THE MOLD READY FOR CASTING THE ANTENNA!



SO TOMORROW NIGHT I CAN GET SOME FIREBRICKS AND WE'LL COOK THAT FOOD AND INVITE FRED THE DRAGON TO DINNER. HE CAN BREATHE FIRE ONTO THE CRUCIBLE

SOMETIMES I WONDER IF DEMOLISHING MIT'S COMPUTERS IS REALLY THE RIGHT THING TO DO

WHAT BETTER WAY TO TEST HOW WELL IT WORKS?



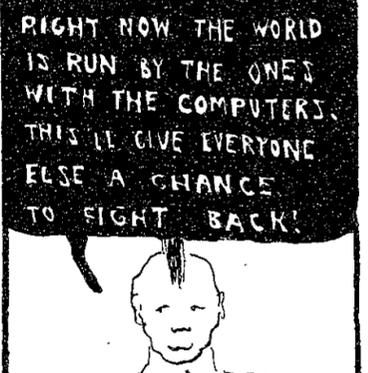
WELL MAYBE THIS PROJECT WOULD MAKE A GOOD THESIS OR SOMETHING



BUT THEN THE PENTAGON WOULD HAVE SNATCHED IT RIGHT UP



RIGHT NOW THE WORLD IS RUN BY THE ONES WITH THE COMPUTERS. THIS'LL GIVE EVERYONE ELSE A CHANCE TO FIGHT BACK!



MEANWHILE, JOE THE RAT IS BEING SHOWN AROUND THE FACTORY WHERE HE WILL BE SETTING UP HIS EXPERIMENT

OK, RODENT, LET'S GET ONE THING STRAIGHT



I'LL BE PRETTY UNHAPPY IF THIS EXPERIMENT DOESN'T WORK; BUT IF IT DOES



I WANT YOU TO SCALE IT UP BY A MILLION TIMES!



TO BE CONTINUED

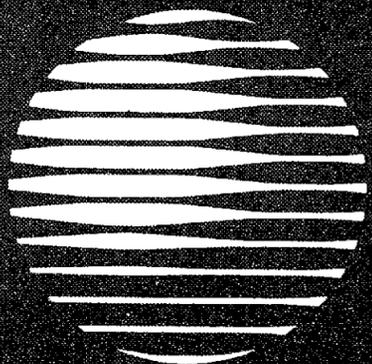
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Ian Ross



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sports

Basketball's fate hangs on veterans

By Paul Paternoster

It is exactly 11 days before the men's basketball season begins, and practice sessions are in full gear. With the nucleus of last year's young team returning and the addition of incoming freshmen, the Engineers will face their tough schedule with a more polished squad than last year.

Coach Fran O'Brien is pleased with the early practice sessions. The players have had a chance to work on individual skills, in addition to getting into condition. O'Brien has been able to experiment with his offensive and defensive lineups.

"The kids have been working hard," O'Brien said, "so the practices have been positive." Many of the team members played summer ball, he added, and as a result, have improved their games.

Experience will be a key factor for the Engineers this season, as the team's two top scorers and performers Craig Poole '86 and Mike McElroy '87 have returned. In addition, team co-captains Jim Egan '86, Bud Taddiken '85, and Charlie Theuer '85 are back.

These five players will provide the team with a solid core which will dictate much of their success.

The Engineers do not have as much height as some of their opponents. Post man Taddiken, at 6'6", is the squad's tallest player. With McElroy (6'5") at forward and Theuer (6'2") at small forward, the front line is one of the smaller lines in the league. Egan (5'8") occupies the point guard

position.

While height is a negative factor, the tough schedule will be an even bigger challenge. This season the Engineers face Caltech, John Hopkins, and Washington University — three of the top NCAA Division III schools in the nation.

Locally, the team will compete in a tournament hosted by the University of Massachusetts at Boston during Thanksgiving break. This competition will pit the Engineers against Worcester State, Connecticut, Amherst, Wesleyan, and UMass-Boston.

Most of MIT's opponents recruit their players, so the quality of these teams is high, often insurmountable for the Engineers. MIT's nucleus, however, has been together for over a year now, having played 31 games last year, including a national tour of India. The experience factor may help the Engineers give their competition a run for the money.

The team has already begun its preseason schedule, consisting of four scrimmages. MIT dropped its first scrimmage to Eastern Nazarene Saturday.

Tomorrow the Engineers host Southeastern Massachusetts at 1 pm. Tuesday night the team plays Framingham State. The team concludes its preseason next Saturday with a game against Middlebury College.

The Engineers' regular season begins Tuesday, Nov. 20 against Babson College. The game will be held in Rockwell Cage and will begin at 7:30 pm.



Tech photo by P. Paul Hsu

Co-captains of the men's basketball team (from left): Bud Taddiken '85, Jim Egan '86, and Charlie Theuer '85.

Saturday's contest key for football

(Continued from page 20)

calling the signals, bringing back to the MIT offense the added dimension of a scrambling quarterback.

"Broecker's shoulder still hurts," said Smith of his veteran quarterback, "but his legs are fine." Broecker leads the team with 59.8 yards per game, and is second in overall rushing yardage with 363.

Offensive tackle John Einhorn G may play in spite of a fractured collar bone. Linebacker Eden Warner '85, who sat out the last two games with a fractured finger, will play with a cast on his hand, according to Smith.

If MIT secures a playoff spot, the coach will have the team vote on whether or not to participate. "I'm almost afraid to do it," he confessed.

The last time the team took such a vote was in 1980 after a 6-1 season, and the players decided not to participate in the post-season competition. "They were saying 'We'll be here again,'" Smith recalled. "We'll go next year."

"That was five years ago," he added. "I think they'll decide to go this time."

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sports

Playoffs may be in offing for football

By Martin Dickau

The football club has a very real chance of reaching the National Collegiate Football Association (NCFA) playoffs, according to MIT head coach Dwight Smith.

Smith said he received a call Wednesday from NCFA Commissioner Stan Gural informing him of the possible berth.

"I was surprised," the coach said. "I wasn't even considering it."

The Engineers' overall record is 4-3, and they are currently ranked fifth nationally. The top four teams will move on to post-season play.

Worcester State and St. John Fisher, both undefeated and ranked first and second, respectively, are guaranteed playoff spots. Number three Bentley, fourth-ranked Assumption, MIT, and sixth-ranked Providence are battling for the two remaining slots.

If Assumption loses Saturday's game against Worcester State, and if MIT defeats Roger Williams, the Engineers would move into the fourth and final playoff spot. If Bentley should also lose to Providence, then MIT could take over third place, according to Smith.

"It comes down to Assumption's losing and our winning," Smith summarized. "If Assumption wins, they're automatically in it. If we lose, we don't go anywhere."

Roger Williams, once the pe-

rennial occupant of the New England Collegiate Football Conference's cellar, is now "a pretty good team," Smith said. "They always come on at the end of the year."

"Last year they were great," he added in reference to MIT's 40-6 thrashing at the hands of the Seahawks in last season's final game at Roger Williams. "I wish we were playing UMass again this week."

This year the Engineers will have the home advantage when the two schools meet in Steinbrenner Stadium Saturday at 1 pm.

Smith expects to have three injured regulars back in the lineup for Saturday's game. Dave Broecker G, who was sidelined with a separated shoulder, will be

(Please turn to page 19)

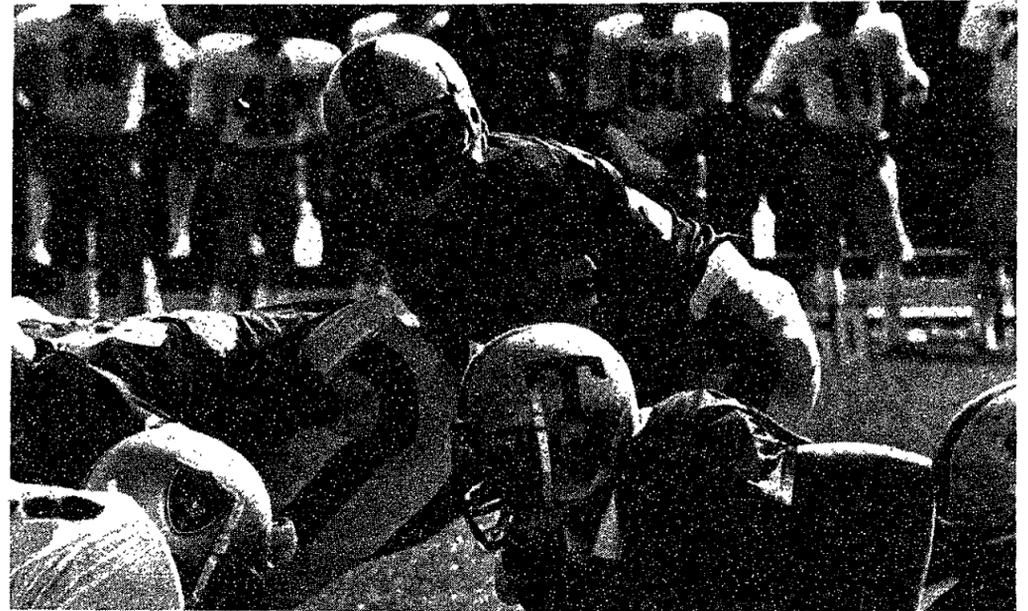
Strong fencing teams expect to have another winning season

By Martin Dickau

A national runner-up opponent, a potential three-time individual men's foil champion, and a new weapon for women are only part of coach Eric Sollee's agenda for MIT's varsity fencing teams.

"We have Notre Dame coming back," Sollee said, "and North Carolina." Notre Dame was the runner-up in last year's national championship, while the University of North Carolina was fifth.

MIT also has North Carolina State and perennially tough Har-



Tech photo by Steven H. Wheatman

Quarterback Dave Broecker G returns to the starting lineup Saturday to lead the Engineers against Roger Williams. The game, at 1 pm in Steinbrenner Stadium, will be their last of the season.

New England Collegiate Football Conference Team Standings

| | W | L | T | PF | PA |
|-----------------|---|---|---|-----|-----|
| Worcester State | 6 | 0 | 0 | 208 | 78 |
| Bentley | 4 | 2 | 0 | 134 | 104 |
| Assumption | 3 | 3 | 0 | 106 | 87 |
| MIT | 3 | 3 | 0 | 117 | 109 |
| Providence | 3 | 3 | 0 | 118 | 99 |
| Stonehill | 3 | 3 | 0 | 88 | 109 |
| Roger Williams | 2 | 4 | 0 | 71 | 104 |
| UMass-Boston | 0 | 6 | 0 | 40 | 204 |

Saturday's Schedule

Assumption at Worcester State, 1 pm.
 Providence at Bentley, 1 pm.
 Roger Williams at MIT, 1 pm.
 UMass-Boston at Stonehill, 1 pm.

ENGINEERS

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