Commencement

More than 4,000 people are expected to attend the sixth Commencement Exercises at UMass-Boston this Thursday.

It will be, of course, the first Commencement on this new campus. And--although we do not even suggest the mention of precipitation for that day--it could be the first graduation ever held in a garage, because that's the foul weather alternative site. Although one must admit that we have a rather spacious garage on the premises.

But it is the great day of the academic year, the culmination of years of study and sacrifices by students and their families. More than 800 candidates for bachelor's degrees will be presented to the Board of Trustees for their diplomas. Eight Master of Arts in Mathematics degrees will be awarded.

Chief Marshal Roger Prouty (History II) will begin forming the academic procession at 3:30 P.M. at the Administration Building. Chancellor Carlo Colino will be presiding at the exercises and will give the main address. President Robert Wood will give the greetings of the University. Reginald Cagle will speak for the Class of 1974 and Angela Szep will speak for the Honors Society. About 15 students are expected to be graduated with Summa Cum Laude honors.

Following the ceremonies families and friends of the graduates will have opportunities to meet faculty members at the reception.

New Monthly Insurance Premiums

Effective July 1 the monthly premiums for the basic health insurance with the Aetna Life Insurance Company are being increased, according to an announcement by the Group Insurance Commission in Boston. These new rates will be in effect from July 1, 1974 through June 30, 1975. There will be no increase in the level of coverage under this new one-year contract with Aetna.

Employees participating in the Basic Life and Health Insurance Plan ($2,000 of life insurance with the Boston Mutual Life Insurance Company and health insurance with Aetna) will have these new increased rates deducted from their paychecks commencing with the check they receive on Friday, June 7, 1974. (Basic insurance deductions are made one month ahead.) The Commonwealth of Massachusetts or appropriate trust fund assumes 75% of the total monthly cost for the Basic Life and Health Insurance. Your new rate will appear in the "Basic Insurance" section of your "Employee's Pay Statement" which you receive with each paycheck.
New Monthly Insurance Premiums
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The new individual coverage rate deducted from the paycheck you receive on Friday, June 7, will be $6.57 per month (old rate, $6.28); the new family coverage rate will be $14.59 per month (old rate, $13.89). The premium for Dependent-Student coverage (age 19 or over) will continue to be $4.00 per month. If you have the $2,000 of life, accidental death, a dismemberment insurance only, your deduction will remain the same ($63 per month).

If you are enrolled in Optional Medicare Extension (only people enrolled in both parts A and B Medicare are eligible), the amount deducted for individual coverage will be $4.92 per month (old rate, $4.82). For family coverage, if one member is enrolled in O.M.E., and the spouse is enrolled in the standard Aetna plan, the deduction will be $10.86 per month (old rate, $10.47). If both husband and wife are enrolled in O.M.E., the deduction will be $9.21 per month (old rate, $9.01).

Library Conference

The University Librarian, Professor Walter Grossman, was the moderator of a panel discussion on "Current Trends in Collection Development" held by the New England Chapter of the Association of College and Research Libraries on May 15 at Boston Public Library. The Panel was concerned with the problems of book selection and collection building as they affect individual libraries, the larger academic library community beyond each campus, and the book industry.

Chancellor Honored

The Dante Alighieri Society of Massachusetts presented its highest award of the year to Chancellor Carlo L. Golino Saturday night at the Copley Plaza Hotel. The award was given this year to Dr. Golino as "the personality in the Italian-American community for his cultural accomplishments and for having brought honor upon himself, the community, his country of origin, and the United States."

Irish Scholar

Professor Thomas Brown (History I) has been invited to give a series of lectures in Ireland this summer. He will be a seminar leader on discussions of the Irish-American in American politics. While he is in Ireland, Professor Brown will also participate in a series of television broadcasts, featuring his analyses of the role of Irish immigrants in the United States.

West Europe and Unions

In the May 22 Christian Science Monitor is a thoughtful essay on the role of West European labor unions and the government controlled unions behind the Iron Curtain. Author is Professor Arnold Beichman (Politics II). Beichman says a "specter is haunting European trade unionism." Despite confusion on the roles within the Western European countries on their easy or uneasy alliances with Communist labor unions, Beichman says the stakes are high, pointing out NATO; the Common Market, opposed by the British Trades Union Congress and the French Communist labor federation; relations with American labor, and the political and military future of Western Europe.