A Confused Class of 1996

By Kevin Fitch

After their first two days on campus, most entering students are enthusiastic and enjoying themselves, although still somewhat confused and disoriented.

Students pointed to Project MOYA (Move Off Your Assumptions) as being particularly successful. The Freshman Evaluation Essay (FEE) was seen as fair, despite the fact that many freshmen complained about having "forgotten how to write" over the summer.

The R/O check-in process, however, was far from popular, and was seen as being inefficient and disorganized. Also, freshmen who were placed in singles complained because they did not have anyone to accompany them to rush events.

The freshmen found their first days on campus confusing and hectic, but all seemed to be looking forward to rush actually starting. "I'm really psyched and confused, but not really sure what's going on," said Jacqueline Brener '96. But when asked if she was looking forward to rush, responded with "Definitely!"

Karen Lindemann '96, who seemed rather unimpressed by the idea of rush, said, "It's scary. I'm confused (due to) being away from home and my parents." "Confusing," said John and Barbara Hork, who were waiting for their son John C. Hecoe '96. "It would be better if they did it second semester. Right now we just want to get something to eat," they added.

Expectations of rush were relatively similar, with freshmen predicting confusion but hoping to overcome it. "I figure it's like a big summer camp-type thing," said Joshua N. Goldberg '96. "It would be better if they did it second semester. Right now we just want to get something to eat," they added. "Confusing," said John and Barbara Hork, who were waiting for their son John C. Hecoe '96. "It would be better if they did it second semester. Right now we just want to get something to eat," they added.

This year, cynicism about rush was as the hour drew closer. Enthusiasm built among the leaders as the day approached and the games and activities were being played. "It's kind of embarrassing," said Benjamin S. Loper '96, who plans to rush a fraternity. But when asked if he expected it to be as fun as the previous years, he replied, "I figure it's like a big summer camp-type thing," said Mark. L. Gottlieb '96 said, "I haven't had time to come up with any plan, and I'm not sure what to expect."

The Freshman Evaluation Essay (FEE) was seen as the greatest percentage of crowded rooms in a number of years. The provost's office, which receives input from both the housing and financial offices, decided last year to accept a larger than normal sized freshman class, despite the fact that it would cause the housing crunch.

Elizabeth S. Johnson, associate director of admissions for information service and research, said that "the target number of enrolled freshmen gives us to the present office originally was 1150." The number, 100 above the usual levels, was later cut down, by request of the admissions office, to 1125. The current number of enrolled freshman is 1147, which includes the "ten or so students who don't show each year," Johnson said.

James R. Culliton, vice president for financial operations, said that the decision to enroll more students was made two years ago, as a way of generating more revenue for the institution. "The plan was to enroll 50 students more per year, but since nothing was done last year, the number was raised to around 100." This year, Johnson said, adding that the housing office knew the effect the enrollment increase would have on the dormitory situation, and agreed to the new level of students.

Large Frosh Class May Crowd Dorms

By Ben Reis

As part of this year's Residence/Orientation committee, I was a Project MOYA (Move Off Your Assumptions) leader, and it helped train R/O counselors. A group of upperclassmen who volunteered their time to talk to freshmen before rush began.

This year, cynicism about rush as an institution has reached a new high compared to my previous three rush experiences. But my involvement in rush has shown me that there is indeed a positive side to R/O week. As a Project MOYA leader, I had to spend several hours training over the summer, along with over 60 other members of the MIT community. During the dog days of summer, the games and activities were too silly and too foolish to ever play with 1,150 brilliant freshmen.

But this time around and "dress rehearsals" began, MOYA began to take on a life of its own. Enthusiasm built among the leaders as the hour drew closer. The Freshman Evaluation Essay (FEE) was seen as the greatest percentage of crowded rooms in a number of years.

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Frosh Take Examination To Determine Math Level

By Bauen M. Lerner

Nearly all of the approximately 1,200 members of the Class of 1996 took the second annual Math Diagnostic exam yesterday afternoon, a test meant to tell freshmen whether they are prepared to take first-year physics subjects. A small number of students were less than pleased with having to take the test. "Since we're all taking calculus," said John J. O'Dwyer '96, "I don't know why we have to take this test."

Summer, the games and activities were too silly and too foolish to ever play with 1,150 brilliant freshmen. But this year approached and "dress rehearsals" began, MOYA began to take on a life of its own. Enthusiasm built among the leaders as the hour drew closer. The Freshman Evaluation Essay (FEE) was seen as the greatest percentage of crowded rooms in a number of years.

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Large Frosh Class May Crowd Dorms

By Ben Reis

An unexpectedly large freshman class has led to what could be the greatest percentage of crowded rooms in a number of years. The provost's office, which receives input from both the housing and financial offices, decided last year to accept a larger than normal sized freshman class, despite the fact that it would cause the housing crunch.

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Freshmen take part in a "trust circle," a MOYA activity Thursday.
All's Fair in the Air Fare Wars

**By Michael Morgan**

After a wet and windy Saturday morning, skies across southern New England were clear by late afternoon. A warm front will take on a markedly more comfortable feel. Our rain is being caused by the interaction of a cold front and an upper-level low. The front will move through the region bringing scattered showers and thunderstorms.

**Settling to Extract Himself from Turbulence**

Seeking to extract himself from a whirlwind of mounting political efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew, President Bush defended the federal response to the massive storm damage Friday and declared that he would send more help if needed.

"We will commit all federal military resources necessary to help the people in Florida," he said at a hastily called meeting with reporters in the White House Rose Garden.

Bush, who had intended to go to his seaside home in Maine this weekend for a break from campaigning, the hurricane and the potential political fallout from both, returned to Washington as it was on top of a domestic issue that had grabbed the nation's attention.

The growing dispute also comes as the two rivaling factions in Khartoum announced a cease-fire in the campaign.

**Bush Defends Federal Response To Hurricane Damage in South**

By James Gerstenzang

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Anticipating that Friday may continue the series of strikes and that it is possible that the leadership of the Iraqi government may advise it to stop the strikes, the officials said the tactics used in the strikes are aimed at weakening the morale of the Iraqi military and at detering any possible attempt to launch any new attacks on the coalition forces.

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Column by Matthew H. Hersch

I've been walking around campus wearing a "Bill Clinton for President" shirt quite a lot lately. Sometimes I get strange looks, but most of the time, if anyone notices it at all, they respond positively, saying they support the candidate as well.

That surprised me at first. I had expected people to react with a certain amount of disdain, as if I had let myself become a walking billboard for the Democratic party. I later discovered that it was only I who, quite wrongly, felt that way.

I had worn a Bill Clinton shirt for a while. I support the Clinton-Gore ticket in '92, and I had made my political convictions clear in my late-night public editorials and columns. After writing columns, wearing a political shirt seemed to be part of a natural progression.

It wasn't at first. It was awkward. I didn't like to go to protests and demonstrations. I don't belong to a political party. I don't believe in declarations, marked as such and printed in a distinctive format, are the official opinion of the signed members of the editorial board choosing to express dissent, marked as such and printed in a distinctive format, are the opinions of the signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

Letters to the editor are welcome. They must be typed, double-spaced and addressed to The Tech, PO Box 29, MIT Branch, Cambridge, MA 02139, or by interdepartmental mail to Room 220-403. Electronic submissions in plain text format may be mailed to letters@thetech.mit.edu. All submissions are due by 4 p.m. two days before the issue date. Letters and cartoons must bear the author's signature, address, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. No letter or cartoon will be printed anonymously without the express prior approval of The Tech. The Tech reserves the right to edit or condense letters. Shorter letters will be given higher priority. We regret we cannot publish all of the letters we receive.

In World of Politics, Advertising Has a Place

Instead of making me feel secure, political consensus spooked me, and still does.

I liked to stand out — it just never seemed proper as a journalist, and I never wanted to surrender my individuality to a single idea. Even if I supported the same issue, say, as a group of protesters, I could never be "one of them." They could never have all the same motivations I did — they could never feel exactly the same "way" I could, and I could never allow myself to stand and be counted with them, not knowing what they all believed.

Instead of making me feel secure, political consensus spooked me, and still does. And the demonstrations and rallies it ignited always seemed pointless — I do not believe that aggressive "in your face" protest tactics and demonstrations can change minds as effectively as editorial journalism.

Wearing a Clinton shirt, compromising all of my political stands into one simplified expression of support, seemed counter to everything I believed in.

But I got over that, yesterday, when a citizen stopped me in a stairwell and remarked about how happy she was to see that she was not alone in supporting Clinton-Gore.

And then it hit me. This act of political consensus did serve a purpose. It let other lukewarm Clinton supporters know that they were not alone, that others supported him as well, and that because of this Clinton did indeed have a chance to win.

Wearing a shirt, displaying a banner, or attending a rally does have a place in politics — such acts of consensus help a political belief gain credibility. This is their role. When an idea has achieved this credibility, signs and banners lose their importance, and lose their honorable character — standing more as a selfish sign of pride for supporters than a beacon to attract others.

I would like to see Clinton and Gore taken seriously. That is my goal, and that is why I wear the shirt. My Bill Clinton shirt probably does. And the shirts and banners lose their importance, and lose their honorable character — standing more as a selfish sign of pride for supporters than a beacon to attract others.

I still won't join the Democratic party, I will not go to demonstrations, and I will never declare unflinching loyalty to any candidate's political philosophy, but I will wear my Bill Clinton shirt with pride.

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The afternoon began with the freshman picture (upper left) after which the assembled group of freshmen and upper-classmen waited patiently for the speeches to begin (above and left). While the speeches provided a distraction, Neal Dorow, Advisor to Fraternities and Independent Living Groups, directed traffic (below) for the erecting of the ILG's billboards. "Let the Rush begin," bellowed IFC Rush Chair Karl L. Yen '93, and the advertising for freshmen began with the lifting of the billboards (upper and lower right) and the passing out of flyers (lower left).
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Levi's® 501® Jeans for Men & Women
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Or you can choose 505®, 550® and 560® for men, and 512® and 550® for women! The Coop definitely has the hottest and coolest selection of Levi's® jeans in town, including the ever popular Silver Tab®. Choose from rinsed, stonewashed, bleached and black. All in 100% cotton.

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UNITED WAY
of Massachusetts

This space donated by The Tech.
Trinity's Lend Me a Tenor offers lightweight laughs

LEND ME A TENOR

By Chris Roberge

For those who consider lighthearted laughs and a noticeable lack of depth traits that "quality" theater should avoid at all costs, the current production of Lend Me a Tenor at the Trinity Repertory Theatre in Providence, R.I., would probably be a performance best avoided. But for those whose tastes are not restrained by such foolish prejudices, this Tony-nominated comedy by Ken Ludwig features enough important mishaps, mistaken identities, and misadventures to keep you laughing at every turn.

The plot of Lend Me a Tenor revolves around the attempts of the Cleveland Opera Guild in 1934 to survive a production of Verdi's Otello which will be highlighted by the appearance of the world-renowned tenor, Tito Merelli (Keith Jochim). Many of the people involved with the company, such as the company's chairman, the visually stylish production. Tito's strong-willed wife Maria (Phyllis Kay) is dressed in a costumes designed for the play. William Lane's costuming provides a good deal of humor to the characters' tri- umphant wife Maria (Phyllis Kay) is dressed in a costumes designed for the play. William Lane's costuming provides a good deal of humor to the characters' tri- umphant wife Maria (Phyllis Kay) is dressed in a costumes designed for the play. William Lane's costuming provides a good deal of humor to the characters' tri- umphant wife Maria (Phyllis Kay) is dressed in a costumes designed for the play. William Lane's costuming provides a good deal of humor to the characters' tri- umphant wife Maria (Phyllis Kay) is dressed in a costumes designed for the play. William Lane's costuming provides a good deal of humor to the characters' tri- umphant wife Maria (Phyllis Kay) is dressed in a costumes designed for the play. William Lane's costuming provides a good deal of humor to the characters' tri-
Jim's Journal

I watched TV all last night.

There were a bunch of talk shows on.

Today when I got up I felt a lot more tired than usual.

I went to the corner store to get a newspaper and everybody seemed to be bustling.

I ran into Tony today.

He turned off his walkman and said, "Hey, Jim, what's up?"

I said, "Not much."

Then a guy on a unicycle went by and Tony said, "Get a loada that guy!"

Kappa Sigma
Rush Schedule

Saturday

7:00-11:00 House of Pancakes
12:00-4:30 Sandwichettes
12:00-2:00 Frisbee on Briggs Field
4:00-6:00 Basketball at Dupont Gym
6:00 Steak and Lobster Dinner

407 Memorial Drive
Call: 494-0330
Freshmen Considered Crowded
Freshmen considered crowded if two students are assigned to what is usually a single, or three in a double. Crowded students pay less for their room than they would for non-crowded students. Approximately 40 percent of freshmen class were chosen thereby living in a fraternity or an independent living group. If this year’s freshmen rush at the normal rate, more than the usual number will be placed in crowded rooms. But Levitt said that the prospect of a crowded room assignment is not a sufficient reason to rush. “I don’t want to force anyone into an ILC just because of crowding.” Crowding “could be a part of a freshman’s decision to rush for other reasons. Chances are that a good member will be unappealing being assigned to crowded rooms.”

Levitt added, “I wouldn’t be surprised if some people liked the crowded rooms.” Some “really friendly” students might find the cramped living situation bearable, as well as those students looking to pay less for a downtown room, he said. “If that will influence their freshmen decision, then it is something that we understand and we empathize with them. We are provoking the information and they need to make an educational decision.”

Most students seemed not to mind the crowding too much and many said that they would not affect their decision of whatever to rush. “I’ll deal with it,” said Eric Seelig ’96, adding that “as you who live with, not how you live.” Eritha Jordan ’96 said that she felt the threat of crowding would not cause her to tear down a way or the other. On the other hand, Andy Katz ’96 said that he was going to rush anyway, but this “the crowding” strengthens my decision to do so.”

Levitt did say that the housing office is encouraging freshmen to participate in rush during this Residence Orientation Week. “We’ve really pushed it this year.” The encouragement stems not from the need to alleviate the housing crunch, stressed Levitt, a desire to have freshmen “find out early about what part of campus life is like.”

Larger Freshman Class Means More Dorm Crowding

Confusion over significance and the term “What are your fears in coming to MIT?” was focused largely on complaints that freshmen who do poorly on the Diagnostic in order to take 8.01. A majority of freshmen would love, but one-third of freshmen said their decision of whether to rush. “I was going to rush my freshman year of college, but now I’m thinking twice.”

The training had called for nothing more than a very plain, very simple introduction to rash and MIT in general. However, for the most part, freshmen were content to stay far more than they were asked to give, and doctrine, was to avoid a lot of common sense and good advice.

R/O is far from a perfect process. But there are moments when MIT does far better at welcoming in freshmen than any other college. It’s the level of caring, of open-mindedness, and of wanting to help first year students, that makes these moments different groups. What I observe different groups. What I think about something, I hope I’ll make a good choice, but I don’t even know what that is.”

MOYA Successful
The freshman reaction to Project MOYA was mixed. Many introduced last year to the freshmen with one, another was overwhelmingly favorable. “I liked it because you’re forced to meet new people,” said a student from the class of 1996. “It was a good experience. Most places don’t give freshmen the chance to meet each other that way.” When asked if the program was working, Christine Hau ’96 responded enthusiastically that MOYA “was a good idea — they should continue to have it.”

MOYA — “gave us bonds — we didn’t know each other, we cut on MOYA instead,” said Suresh Vaghela ’96. adding that “growing by the elements [of the periodic table] was one of those things that give MIT a name. It did make for an unusual overload pickup line.”

Freshmen who were assigned to single or very few rooms were focused largely on complaints that freshmen who do poorly on the Diagnostic in order to take 8.01. A majority of freshmen would love, but one-third of freshmen said their decision of whether to rush. “I was going to rush my freshman year of college, but now I’m thinking twice.”

A Freshman in a State of Confusion

Christian Fellowship Lounge (24 hrs)
Come & meet Christians from 19 fellowships at MIT in room 8-105, at the end of the infinite corridor. We will have Christian books, Information about various fellowships, a schedule of activities & food available.

Come by anytime during orientation! (Thursday Aug 27 to Friday Sept 4)
Freshmen Enjoy Project MOYA

Photos by Matthew H. Hersch

Freshmen meet their MOYA leaders and each other on the athletic fields Thursday (right).

President Charles M. Vest watches freshmen take part in the Can-Can, one of Thursday's MOYA Activities (left). The Project, run by members of the MIT community, tried to bring the class together and help them have fun at the same time. Other activities included the Trust Fall (below-left), a game that combined group dynamics with just a little bit of danger. Freshmen stretched their limbs before the games (below).

No6 Club

Monte Carlo Night

Saturday, 9pm

Try your luck at Roulette, Craps, & Black Jack. Win Newbury Comic's Gift Certificates!

428 Memorial Drive
6:30p: AKE.
5:48p: AE11. VEGETARIAN'S DE-

Brothers from different-ethnic groups... drop its SPORT DEATH banner in... come to the Italian... rari! Eh, wassamatta... be happy to give you some of our...  

3-888 for a ride.* Drop by for the ultimate... 3683 for a ride.**

3:00p: AKE.

5:48p: AE11. VEGETARIAN'S DE-

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Residence

All day, Sigma Phi Epsilon. Sig Ep will be having a cookout from 2-5 to celebrate their move to 370 Plymouth Road. Free

dog.