How many times have you been told that "MIT is tough."? Ten? A hundred? Probably more. Everyone who has talked with you about this place since you were accepted has taken the line, "Well, it's a tough school... but we all know you'll pull through all right. Good luck!"

And chances are, you agreed with them. You are pretty sure you will pull through all right. A study of the present Senior class when it was in their first year revealed that 96% of the men in the class considered being in the upper half of the class academically. Needless to say, half of these freshmen were disappointed.

The study to which we refer is the Susman Report. Dr. Leila Susman, of Wellesley College, observed and interviewed the Class of 1961 throughout its freshman year; her report was made available last Spring. We recommended at that time that all of you be sent copies of the Report, but nothing was done about it. So we'll take it upon ourselves to pass on to you a few of the facts contained therein that concern you directly.

Lack of school spirit at MIT was a complaint among many of the entering freshmen. 75% of the dormitory residents also felt a lack of house spirit. Apathy was sensed all around, not only toward school and living group, but also toward classmaters. One fourth of the freshman class reported at the end of the year that they had only three or less close friends. Time was scarce; entering freshmen, most of whom had done very well in high school, found themselves with time for nothing but school work. Whereas in the four years of secondary school, twice as much time was spent in recreation and social activities as was spent in studies, at MIT this ratio was reversed.

The subject of the freshmen's complaints was no surprise. Some of the precise statistics were:

Our purpose in printing a few of the more disturbing ones is to start you, the Class of 1964, thinking about the problem areas that you will encounter.

Do not feel, however, that you have run into a brick wall. At MIT the problems mentioned above are not considered unsolvable. Much has transpired since the present Senior class arrived; every year sees further development of MIT as a community as well as a technical institute. As MIT evolves from an impersonal diploma factory to a genuine university, with an intellectual and cultural life outside the classroom as well as in, each successive class gains a little more from its four-year experience. A welcome, then, to you, the newest members of the MIT community.

Be aware that you are a part of the dynamic entity that is MIT, and do your best to improve both the school and yourselves in the four years that lie ahead.

More will be written on this subject in the coming months; welcome and will be printed if it is in any way possible. Last term the number of letters received took a sharp upturn at The Tech; we felt that the paper's effectiveness and worth was materially increased by their publication. We look forward to the continuation of this trend.

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A PRODUCT OF THE PARKER PEN COMPANY
Scoundrels' Humorous, 'Beggars' Routine Gay Play at Brattle

By Richard Howland, '62

"School for Scoundrels", a farce now playing at the Exeter, satirizes the notion that there is an easy way to go through life. Anyone can succeed by using the proper play at the proper time—anything at all—"go to school."

Based on Lifemanship

The movie is based on the "Lifemanship" books by Stephen Potter, tells of a man who goes to school to learn how to get along in the world. Picture Palfrey, the hereditary owner of a small investment company, who jumps into a beautiful girl on a bus and gets a date. He, it would seem, is a winner. But he is other-directed—others being his employees, his landlord, and his best friend, who steals the girl.

Learning Gambits

In despair Palfrey signs up for "The School of Lifemanship", headed by Stephen Potter, who is masterfully played by Alastair Sim. There Palfrey learns "Gambitmanship" (how to win against better players), Oneupmanship (how to keep the initiative), Lifemanship (the secret of winning), and womanship—how to be one-up on the girl without marrying her.

Lifemanship Triumphant

Palfrey returns, and in quick succession makes his leading employee's cover before him, bows-his cousin, beats his competitor, steals his rival's girl, and wins. Instead KI 7-3208 (what a name!) marries her.

Flix

The work was given a "Errol Flynn treatment"—but with Sir Laurence Olivier in the leading role. Olivier's songs, sung while looking at a paper cutout of Hollywood's horses, seem ridiculous. In fact, most of John Gay's delightful music was ruined by the cinematic necessity of having the performers act while they sing.

This clash between 17th century opera and 20th century cinema was aggravated by the anachronism of Bliss' music, which separated and swamped Gay's songs.

Like Gay's Songs

Still, Gay's music was there, and it lingered after Bliss and Olivier were forgotten. If you have not heard the music of The Beggar's Opera, you will find the film more entertaining than an evening of television.
An Editorial

Crisis at Charles Playhouse

By Allen S. Krieger, '62

The status of Boston's only repertory company is critical. In three years, the Charles Playhouse has gone from a tiny left theater to a fine off-broadway company which is becoming a new landmark in Boston. However, fiscal disaster has been barely averted several times. This year, the theater is planning a drive to try to achieve financial independence. We can help — in fact, we can guarantee it ourselves, if we want to.

Serious Drama Presented

In the past the Charles Playhouse has produced quality theatre of the type previously available in Boston only from the college drama groups: such plays as Death of A Salesman, Moon For the Misbegotten, Cat on A Hot Tin Roof, and View from the Bridge. Before the advent of the Charles Playhouse, a student looking for serious drama could spend four years here without seeing half as many good plays.

This year we shall see Streetcar Named Desire, Eliot's Cocktail Party, Mille's All My Sons, Anouilh's Waltz of the Toreadors, and Becket's Waiting for Godot. A series ticket would appear to be a sound investment.

Funds Needed

What the Charles Playhouse needs to stay solvent is money — money at the beginning of the season to buy costumes, sets, and pay salaries. A guaranteed audience would put it on a really firm footing.

In order to raise funds now, the managers are offering five tickets for the price of four, that is, a twenty percent discount on series tickets.

Lectures and Discussions

In addition, a series ticket entitles you to attend a series of Sunday evening lectures and discussions on the theater by well-known personalities within it.

If Boston is to remain a cultural center, it is requisite that the Charles Playhouse survive. Less than ten percent of the MIT undergraduates could fill the Charles Playhouse. We have had the potentiality to be influential in the cultural life of the Boston community. Here is a chance to do this and to see five really good plays at the same time.

Music Clubs Plan First Meetings

By Paul Robertson, '61 and Alan Ricketts, '63

The MIT Musical Clubs will start a busy schedule on Registration Day, when the Glee Club commencing at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Orchestra at 7:30, and Techtonians at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 24, all the groups will be in full swing during the opening week of classes.

Concert Tapes Played

All interested freshmen will be given the opportunity to sign up for any or all of these organizations and to meet their present members at the Musical Clubs Booth during the Activities Midway Friday evening. Taped excerpts from Musical Clubs concerts will be played at the booth.

Anyone interested in participating in the production of fine music is urged to attend and investigate the vast and varied musical opportunities at MIT. Membership varies from the strictly amateur to the nearly professional, and there are openings in each section of every group.

The Musical Clubs will inaugurate their concert season with a combined effort on Saturday, October 22, in Kresge Auditorium, after which each group is slated to appear individually at least twice in Kresge, in addition to visiting other schools.

The Glee Club, which has sung everything from schmaltz songs to Honegger's "King David" and Mendelssohn's "Elkah," is again planning two major productions, the second of which will be in conjunction with Douglass College. Also scheduled are concerts with Colby and Skidmore.

Instrumentalists

Symphony Orchestra, besides their Kreage appearances, will travel to Smith. The Concert Band, dedicated to the playing of original works for concert band, is planning a midwinter tour of Canada and possible excursions to New York and New Jersey.

FROST WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Class Meeting: Introduction to Technology, Kresge.

Sunday 3:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. President and Mrs. Stratton's reception for freshmen and their parents, President's House, 111 Memorial Drive.

In 1988 the state of Wisconsin produced 3/4 of a pound of dry edible beans for every person in the United States.
Commencement Day Marks Passing of Class of '60

Members of The Tech's News, Sports, Photography, Managing, and Business staffs are asked to contact their respective editors before Wednesday, September 21 to report their whereabouts.

Finberg Appointed New ROTC Prof.

Col. Irving W. Finberg, who graduated from MIT 29 years ago has returned to assume the post of Professor of Military Science and Tactics for the Institute's Army ROTC unit here. Colonel Finberg succeeds Col. Gilbert G. Brinkenhoff, Jr., who retired last May 31 after 30 years of military service, the last three as commanding officer of MIT's ROTC detachment.

Buttner to Command Army ROTC Regiment

Peter Buttner, a senior from Homewood, Illinois, will command the cadet regiment of the US Army ROTC unit at MIT this year.

The announcement was made today by Col. Irving W. Finberg, professor of military science.

Buttner, who resides at Burton House, is a major in Political Science. His father is Col. Louis Buttner, currently on duty with the US Army at Camp Kilmer, N. J.

Mr. Buttner will hold the rank of cadet colonel.

Also named to the cadet regimental staff with ranks as indicated were the following MIT seniors: Lt. Col. James E. Lambert, Alexandria, Va., executive officer; Maj. Nelson E. Stefany, Mapleswood, N. J., personnel officer.

Frosh Crew Takes 2nd

MIT's freshman heavyweight crew completed a successful season with a come-from-behind second place finish in the Intercollegiate Rowing Association regatta, held on Lake Onandaga at Syracuse University, on June 18.

Navy, Washington, and MIT held down first, second and third place for most of the race, but in the stretch the Engineer frosh surged ahead to pass the Huskies in the last ten strokes. The final margin between the two crews was six feet.

The oarsmen were: Bow, Ken Andersen; 2, Anthony Fiory; 3, Jim Lattimer; 4, Rod Wolfcale; 5, Tony Depleter; 6, Murray Morton; 7, Ron Cheek; Stroke, Chris Miller; Cox, Roger Gans.
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