By Dave Danford
In March 1946, the MIT var-
sity basketball team elected Ro-
bert Samuel’s ‘41 as its cap-
tain. It was not his first election,
not his last, and today Samuel’s is running for
Democrat for governor of New
York.
Samuel’s, in his years at MIT, was quite prominent in many
campus activities. As well as being elected captain of the
basketball team, he was elected as a sophomore to the Beaver
Key Society, an honorary ath-
sletic service group.
In addition, Samuel’s wrote a
regular column in The Tech en-
titled Shots on Sports. He was
later elected to the editorial board of the newspaper and
served two years in that ca-
pacity.
Samuel’s, however, achieved the greatest fame of his college
years for his performance on the basketball court. He was the
highest scoring freshman in New
England in the 1936-37 season.
He continued to play and
remain on the varsity to figure consistently near the top in MIT scoring sta-
tistics. Samuel’s was named The Tech writers to characterize him as a third string player, "a future for-
ward and star long shot artist" or "Howie Samuel, King of the
Basketball Court." 
In his Tech column, Samuel’s occasionally expressed his
views on sports and MIT in gen-
eral. Writing on his philos-
ophy concerning the place of
sports at MIT in March 1939, he revealed some very basic atti-
dudes in his approach to life. Samuel’s said, "Undoubtedly in a
technical school such as this, school work must come first. How-
ever, there still must be outside activities to constitute a well-rounded student."
He went on to advocate sports not entirely for the sake of winning
but for the benefit of the participants. Samuel’s stated,
"A fundamental law in life is to do well what one attempts." He
qualified that law by taking a broad view of "doing well." "Satisfaction does not neces-
arily have to be glory but must be an improvement in some way," he
said. Samuel’s has had an active career since graduating from
MIT with a Bachelor in Man-
agement. He was a Lieutenant Colonel in the Army during
World War II, and more recently was Head of the National Alli-
ance of Businessmen, who has
served as Undersecretary of
Commerce.


"Karly Taylor Compton Awards, the greatest fame of his college
years for the voters.
"King Prize for Freshman Writing in all categories, by freshmen
at MIT, is eligible (but see the "Rules for Entries"). Awards: $100 first
prize, $50 second prize, $35
third prize.
"A. Boit Writing Prizes. Writing in all categories, by freshmen
at MIT, is eligible (but see the "Rules for Entries"). Awards: $425, divided
among the winners.
"Robert T. Lund, Senior Research
Professor, will speak on CONSUMER
Right concerning the place of
Production in the Post War
Era.
"Sidney B. Zimmerman, President
of IBM, will give the Address of the \"Silicon Valley\" to MIT students.
"Campus Activities. As well as
being elected captain of the
basketball team, he was elected as a sophomore to the Beaver
Key Society, an honorary ath-
sletic service group.