Happy End, adapted from Elizabeth Haymann's play by Michael Fentong; starring Bertill Broekhuis and Jerrold Wall; presented by the American Repertory Theatre at the Loeb through May 10.

Although Happy End, perhaps the best-known of Ibsen's plays, is a very conventional piece, it feels quite boring. Plot: Chicago gang of four lead a life of crime; the end is as predictable as it is well written. The music, played on happy end, is more interesting than the story. The audience is treated to a series of numbers, each one more professional than the last. The sound of the band is a little more polished, but the important elements remain. Jake Burns still screams out hoarse, he really means what he's saying. Never listened to a word I said. Always yap yap yapping and complaining at me. Back when I was younger they were talking at me. Why don't they all just clear off — because me? Never listened to a word I said. I don't want to hear it if you share don't tell me about it. That's your lot, remember you're a kid.

The MIT Dramashop presents George Bernard Shaw's comedy Man and Superman. The play will be performed May 2, 3, 8, 9 and 10 at the Hasty Pudding Theater, 12 Holyoke St., Harvard Square. Tickets are $3.50 or $3 with student or MIT ID and can be purchased at the door or by calling 253-4720.

MIT Choral Society: John Oliver will direct Bach's St. Matthew Passion with full chorus and orchestra. Tickets are now on sale reserved, $5; unreserved, $3; balcony seats free; available from chorus members and from 144-454, or at the door. May 4, Sacred Heart Church, 3pm.

American Rep Theatre falls unhappily

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An upraised second finger

Finally a band with something to say

STIFF Little Fingers Nobody's heroes on a Crete-archy record.

After suffering with the latest releases from the gang of sometimes interesting, sometimes not, the rest of the recent wimpets, I couldn't believe the first American release from Stiff Little Fingers. The band, which comes out sounding like Dwayne Omond with a red face.

Picking up the album for the first listen, the song lengths amazed me — many were over five minutes and quite long. But mostly about song lengths, this evolved voices of long-haired bands. Oh Stiff Little Fingers wimped out too! I checked the record on the turntable and found the average track length was 3:17. The band sounds a little more professional from their experience since the first time I saw them, about a year ago.

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Junk Food

Junk Food is check-full of food-oriented trivia and statistics: quantities and prices of hot dogs sold at various major league stadiums, a complete table of stock market information for some seventeen junk-food companies, not to mention an essay-year list of all the things General Mills would send you in return for box-tops and money since 1933. But, above all, Junk Food centers around the terrible possibilities that are in store for us if we allow the urge to get out of hand. The main harbinger of doom comes in the form of the Century of Progress (CO) in an apocalyptic world's fair dedicated to America's love-affair with eating, currently under construction on the west coast.

MUSIC

Eight Eyed Spy, Harlequin at The Rat, 528 Columbus Ave., 8pm.

Pastiche, Mandel Dahle at The Underground, 1110 Columbus Ave., Fri., 9pm.

Mandel Dahle at The Rat, 528 Columbus Ave., Sat., 9pm.

Third Rail, Vacuumbeads at Senior House above Roast, Sat.

Trademarks, Mandel Dahle at The Underground, 1110 Columbus Ave., Fri., 9pm.

Urban Verbs, Mandunes at The Rat, Sat., 8pm.

Count Vigilone's Love and Flames, Needs at Camarote, Sat., 9pm.

Submission of Guilt at The Rat, 528 Columbus Ave., Sun., 9pm.


MIT Concert Band: John Cortes conducts the band's spring concert which features works by Copland, Liszt, Russell 33, Hindemith and Niellos. James Moon 83 will be the pianist in the Lushポホーム Concerto. May 3, Walker Memorial, 8pm.