

SOCIAL

From the social chairmen:

Well, not really from the social chairmen. Actually from me. Because you see, I've had a little trouble getting Tim and Sam to respond to my pleas to write something for the Letter. Just because I asked them to do this a month and a half ago and have reminded them three times since is no reason they should hurry on my behalf, now is it? Social chairmen get to have all the fun while the rest of us have to do all the work. They're probably out buying beer right now while I sit slaving over this stupid word processor. Unfair.

Actually, though, that really is the job of the social chairmen. (To have fun, I mean. Not to buy beer.) And to plan some fun for the rest of us. And they do a pretty good job of it too. Let me just describe a few of the parties we've had in past years: "Party by the Pool," (a rock band, 3000 gallon swimming pool, and 500 college students), a Penguin Party, Mardi Gras, a Pajama Party, a Halloween Party . . .

Baker has the largest social budget of any living group. We have approximately 5-6 parties per term, including band parties like the ones mentioned above, Oktobe(e)r fest, and our semi-formal Holiday Party. Twice a term we have semi-formal cocktail parties to which we invite our professors, advisors, and friends. Finally, we have a Baker Pub every term at which people get to demonstrate their talents (or lack thereof).

AND let me remind you (again) about our TOGA PARTY during Rush Week. (Since it's being planned by me, it will, of course, be far and away the best party Baker has ever seen.) Come in your best Greek attire (i.e. use those white sheets MIT lends you during 'O) and be ready a rockin' good time.

Jennifer
(And by proxy Tim and Sam too, but not really.)

SPORTS

No matter what kind of athlete you are, Baker has a place for you. Bakerites play many varstiy sports, including football, rugby, crew, baseball, soccer, hockey, swimming, and others. If you like intramurals, about three-quarters of our 360 people participate in IM sports. Many people play three or more IM's during the year.

Baker fields a few teams in just about every IM sport, even the more obscure ones (like water polo and squash). Therefore, you'll have a chance to try sports you have never played before, as well as to play competitively in the sports you like. Our teams range from those just out for a good time (like D-league softball teams that play with a beer in one hand and a glove in the other) to the perennial A-league championship contenders. In the past couple of years, Baker has won championships in rugby, softball, and crew, and has excelled in the playoffs in soccer, hockey, and ultimate frisbee.

Though Baker athletics are successful, the best part of it is that no matter what sport you play and whether it be varsity or IM's, there will always be fellow Bakerites who will come out to your games and cheer you on. Bakerites always make up a large portion, if not a majority of the crowds at athletic events where other Bakerites are playing. This is the Baker Spirit -- a pride in our House and in the people who live here. Why else would we pack up a busload of people, a case of Peppermint Schnapps, 20 pounds of hamburgers and hotdogs, and roadtrip to watch the MIT football playoffs in the snow?

I'll be around during R/O week, so please stop by the House, meet some of us, and join in our volleyball, soccer, softball, and other pick-up games during the afternoons. I'll be happy to talk to you.

Dean

Dean Chang
Athletic Chairman

FRESHMAN YEAR

Well, here I be at the Tute-ski, finally away at college and living in Baker. It doesn't seem like such a bad place. You know those fraternal types said dorms were cold and impersonal, but this place is cool looking and my roommates seem like okay people and I think we'll get along so now I'm just kind of looking forward to my classes now. My god, one day of classes and we already have all this homework and my god, did you see it? It's impossible. How are we supposed to figure this out? And in every class! All these upperclassmen keep telling me not to worry but I've just got to get it done. Trudge, trudge, trudge, I can't get this, that, this, this, and that, but it's okay 'cause someone else did and he'll let me see it. Phew, all my first problem sets are done but now the second ones are due. It's okay, it just goes on and you get by.

Oh, look, we're having a picnic at Blue Hills with free food and everything, well not everything but it's fun and look, a party, and look, a cocktail party and then a Baker Pub. What's that? It's when people get up on stage in front of a drunken audience and make them laugh or just generally impress them with their talents. I knew I should have gotten my work done before all of this. When is that genius going to finish that problem set? I've only got 25 minutes to copy it before the study break and I don't want to miss the food.

So what do you think? Well, it's hard to say. I'm still only a freshman and I'm still only on pass/fail and I haven't seen much of Boston yet and, and, and, and the work is hard and the food is terrible, but face it, you're just complaining because everyone LOVES to complain and you're really having fun, right? Right.

DCN

BAKER ADVISING

Baker House has a unique system of providing advisors for its freshmen. This program assigns to Baker freshmen faculty advisors who choose to be associated with Baker House, making it easy for each advisor to come to Baker to meet with his or her advisees in an informal atmosphere. Upperclass associate advisors will be living in the house, and will be available at any time. This program lends itself to developing close ties between the advisor and the advisees. While this program is optional, most Baker freshmen participate in it and find it to be a rewarding and worthwhile experience. This year we hope to have almost all of Baker's 75 freshmen involved.

The Raving

Once upon a Baker night dreary, while I
nerded weak and weary,
Over many a faint and incomprehensible
volume of forgettable six lore,
While I tooled, nearly napping, suddenly
there came a tapping,
As of someone gently pounding, pounding
on my Baker door.
"Tis some drunk," I muttered, "pounding at
my Baker House door - "
Only this, ain't nothing more.

Deep into my books peering, long I nerded
there confused and fearing,
Doubting, dreaming dreams no student ever
dared hope for before;
But the work was unbroken, and the stillness
gave no lexical token,
And the only thought that was spoken were the
muffled words, "Serve me more!"
Merely this, and no more.

Open I flung my Baker door, when, with much
a commotion and confusion,
In there stepped a raving mob of the
debauched days of yore.
Not a coherent word they spoke, not a minute
stopped or stayed they,
But, with the grace of lords and ladies,
they staggered from my Baker door.
Staggered into the hall near my Baker door,
Staggered, fell,
And nothing more.

-- Howard Allan Poe

10 Reasons Why I Like to Live in Baker House

Open doors: When you're in your room at Baker House, you leave your door open. An open door is an invitation for conversation, or an extra piece of pizza if you're lucky.

- 2) Location: The House is located only minutes from everything at the Institute. No freezing while trudging across the bridge in winter - and a four minute walk to class means you only have to wake up five minutes before class!
- 3) Baker Spirit: There is a sense of pride in our House that gives Baker a reputation of togetherness. People here are willing to get involved.
- 4) Unity: We are not divided by floors like most other dorms. Everyone gets to know everyone else, regardless of what floor they live on. We eat dinner together in our dining hall, but beware of Tina!
- 5) Don: We've got Don Woodlock, the pride of the Bay Village, Ohio Dairy Queen, and also drummer and guitarist in one of our three House bands.
- 6) Musicals: Every year Baker pools its talents to put on a musical. We've done Cabaret, A Chorus Line, and last year Grease.
- 7) Beer: I like beer. So does Baker.
- 8) Parties: Our \$20,000 social budget provides us with ample opportunity to relax at one of our weekly Happy Hours, or to get down on the dance floor at one of our band parties.
- 9) Football games: Bakerites are always in good attendance at the games. The highlight is usually the homecoming game where we all go to watch football, drink peppermint schnapps, build pyramids, and lead cheers for the cheerleaders.
- 10) People: There are really 360 reasons why I like to live in Baker House. My friends. They're always there to talk to, study with, not study with, drink with, be hungover with, and in general to experience college with. Together.

Alec

Alec Jessiman
Baker House President

"I would only urge potential contributors to remember that the BAKER LETTER goes outside of Baker House and although it should, in general, reflect life in Baker, you wouldn't want people to know what goes on here, would you?"

--excerpted from "A Note From Y.F.E."
Vol. VIII, No. 5, Oct. 24, 1963

SENIOR BLUES

Leaving Baker House after four wonderful years is not an easy thing to do. The place is in my blood, and it's going to be a long time before I find another place that can be so truly a home for me. Let me tell you about two of the most special times of my life; my first week in Baker and my last.

Having just checked in at the R/O center, after having been temporarily assigned to Baker, I painfully lugged my suitcase (Mom had outfitted me for an expedition to Nepal, I think...) towards Amherst Alley. As I came within hailing distance of Baker, a girl with a big smile ran up to me, welcomed me to the House, and offered to carry my bag.

"I don't think you really want to do that ... it's kind of heavy..."

"Oh, please! I'd be happy to!"

"Well, if you're sure you don't mind ..."

"I insist! I ... here we go ... uh ... ugh ... oh ... geez."

She made it about five steps, and sort of collapsed, but she was still smiling. (That was four years ago. We became friends pretty quickly, and she invited me to her wedding two weeks ago.) I decided very quickly that Baker House was where I wanted to live. So much so, in fact, that I was somewhat less than enthusiastic about visiting other places (they had to push me out of the door every once in a while...); that is not the best way to enjoy R/O week, but I knew that I had found my home. I wanted to live here so badly, in fact, that I wrote an impassioned letter to the Dean's Office, begging them to let me live in a closet, a shower stall, the fireplace, anywhere - as long as it was in Baker. In spite of the letter, I got in. (I gave the Dean's Office a good laugh, too!)

My last week in Baker was, in it's own way, as special as my first. I spent three days on Cape Cod with nine of my closest friends, all from Baker. (The friends you live with, the friends who see you happy, sad, awake, asleep, in love, in trouble, inebriated, the friends who see all of you, are friends in a sense and to a degree that is not possible under any other circumstances. The friends you make at Baker will quite possibly become the best friends you ever have!) I came back from the Cape to get ready for another great joy - two friends, both from Baker, were getting married, and they asked me to be their best man. This isn't something that happens all the time, but it's certainly not unheard of.

I hope I've been able to communicate to you, even in a small way, how much I treasured my years in Baker House, and how very difficult it is to leave. It's not the end of world, though - from the number of House alumni you'll see running around during R/O week (including me, probably), it should be fairly clear that once a Bakerite... I know that I'll always have a home here, and I hope that if you decide to live in Baker House, you'll quickly come to feel the same way. Do me one favor - don't bring too much luggage!

THE TEST

WELCOME

Your first test at MIT:

DO YOU BELONG IN BAKER HOUSE??

- 1) What do you like to do on a Saturday night?
 - a. go out drinking or partying
 - b. see a movie
 - c. have a romantic, candle-lit evening
 - d. study
- 2) What is your favorite movie?
 - a. Raiders of the Lost Ark
 - b. Top Gun
 - c. The Sound of Music
 - d. Revenge of the Nerds
- 3) What is your favorite musical group?
 - a. U2
 - b. Billy Joel
 - c. Rush
 - d. The BeeGees
- 4) What do you look for in the opposite sex?
 - a. eyes
 - b. legs
 - c. money
 - d. calculator
- 5) Who is your favorite Rush Chairperson?
 - a. Jennifer Lund
 - b. Jennifer Lund
 - c. Jennifer Lund
 - d. None of the above
- 6) What is your favorite drink?
 - a. beer
 - b. Classic Coke
 - c. strawberry daquiri
 - d. milk

Scores:

- 1) a-3, b-2, c-3, d-0
- 2) a-3, b-3, c-2, d-1
- 3) a-3, b-3, c-3, d-0
- 4) a-3, b-3, c-2, d-0
- 5) a-10, b-10, c-10, d-0
- 6) a-3, b-2, c-3, d-0

0-12 : Well?...
13-25 : Emphatic YES!

All of at Baker House are happy to send you this summer edition of the Baker Letter. The flavor of the Letter explains a lot about Baker House and about the people who live here.

Baker House is a special place with a great deal to offer. We have our own dining hall, laundry room, TV, VCR, and stereo, music room with a grand piano, pinball and snack machines, roof deck... and much more. The location is terrific; we're close to everything on campus, yet going home to Baker is really getting away from the Institute. There is a reason the building we live in is so famous: it really works for all the students. We get cool rooms of all shapes and sizes, roomy lounges, used for group studying, individual studying (when you feel like talking between problems), and great parties. The unique architecture of Baker House makes it a landmark on campus and in our hearts.

MIT can be a tough place to deal with at times, and it is those times when I really appreciate everything Baker House has given me. The security of having a home where you are known and welcomed by all is something very special. The best things at MIT have come to me through Baker House - the best parties, best friends, best times. I know it might sound like I'm going a little overboard here, but the feelings are real. And I'm not the only one who has them. If you come talk to us you might get a better understanding of what I mean.

Baker House is the kind of place where you will be able to meet lots of people, develop your interests, and try new experiences. If you're looking for a fantastic place to live, or just looking for a great time during R/O week, be sure to stop by. We have many exciting things planned for you, and we hope to see you there. In the meantime, if you have any questions about Baker House or MIT in general, please feel free to call or write me. See you soon!



Jennifer Lund
Vice President/Rush and Orientation
362 Memorial Dr.
Cambridge, MA 02139
(612) 831-2550 (until August 15)
(617) 225-7230 (after August 15)

Don't do today what you can put off 'til tomorrow -- a procrastinator

It is tomorrow -- a pessimist

It was tomorrow a week ago -- an MIT student

R/O WEEK at BAKER HOUSE

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

evening: Ice Cream Party on the Roof

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29

**TAEA
PARTY**
LIVE BAND!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

late morning: Women's Brunch

afternoon: Boston Road Rally
Prizes for the Winners!

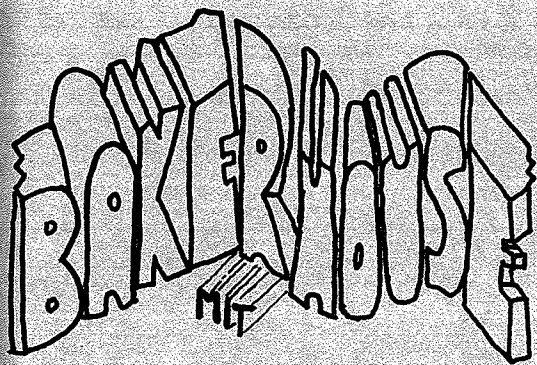
evening: Surprise Picnic after the
Road Rally.

MONDAY, AUGUST 31

afternoon: Barbecue and Volleyball

evening: Movies and Popcorn in the
Lobby.

BAGEL BREAKFASTS (in the lobby), AND
TOURS OF



THROUGHOUT THE WEEKEND.

LATER IN SEPTEMBER...Frosh Dinner...Blue Hills
Picnic...and more...

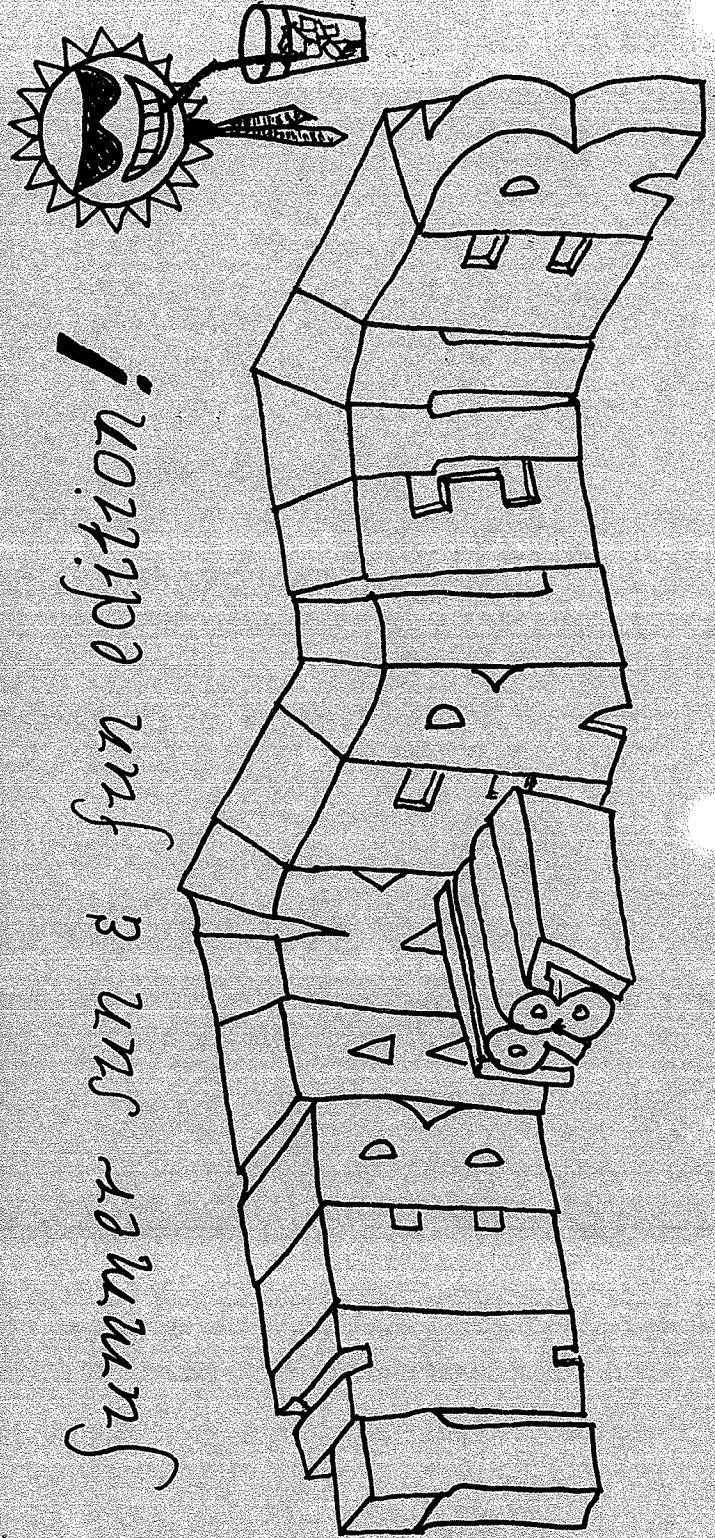
BAKER TRIVIA

TRIVIA QUIZ

Can you identify these things which are near and dear to the hearts of all Bakerites? Come by during R/O week to get to know us, find out the answers to these and other questions, and discover the spirit of Baker House. The first person to give me the correct answers to these questions will get a free Baker House T-shirt. (No small prize!)

Jennifer

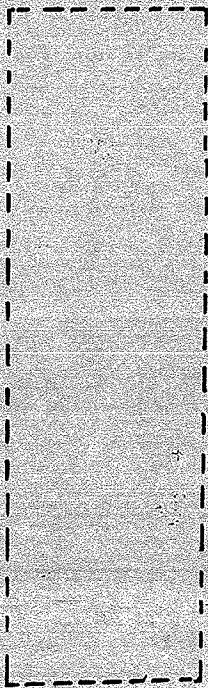
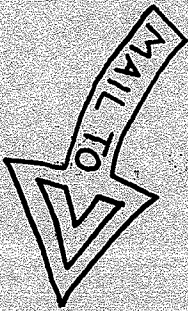
1. Identify the following:
 - a) MBPPIV
 - b) EOTSB
 - c) VPFS
 - d) MOF
2. Where is the weight room?
3. Where is the Ear?
4. What two species of animals live in every Baker room?
5. Who is Baker's only male cheerleader?
6. Who is the present sex god? goddess?
7. Where is the Moon Garden?
8. Who are the Dogs?
The Rucking Fetards?
9. Who is Tina?
10. What do five bells mean? two? seven?



!noitpo unf 3 uns adnwurS

Dedicated to the Finnish architect,
Alvar Aalto, who gave us our home.

BAKER HOUSE-MIT
362 MEMORIAL DR.
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139



If nothing else, freshman physics will show
you how to figure out the dent in the ground
created by a piano launched (hypothetically of
course) from the roof of an MIT dormitory.
(piano drop?)