opinion

Fun...he never mentioned it was going to be acid rain.

feedback

Pass/Fail encourages diversity

In the Editor:
The freshman year at MIT is a time of relative innocence. Supported by the lack of advanced courses in unfamiliar surroundings by the ravishing grace of Pass/Fail, many freshmen find the time to see Boston, play the piano, take part in sports, or even just go to parties and learn how to talk to people about things not covered in the courses simply to explore areas not covered in sports, or even just go to parties! Some freshmen take courses simply to explore areas new to them; again, Pass/Fail shields them from the consequences of their youthful folly. But for the naysayers, the Classes of 1984 leave no impression of Pass/Fail. Many freshmen speak of it as a self-righteous ramble! Course VI is breeding the Master Race down there, and the sacred discipline of Electrical Engineering is not to be profaned by the presence of the frivolous at the altar! The freshman who desires to follow the Path must be pure of heart and mighty of GPA! And from the bowls of building 37 comes an answer: Ye who wish to build airplanes, ye must be free from sin, even in 18.03 and 6.071! Repent, sinner! The shield of Pass/Fail will protect you no longer, for we are the Department, and We have spoken: the Premature is holy! Students in Course VI and Course XV, if you are really in favor of this measure, in the article in The Tech seemed to indicate, please think again. Given these precedents, the complete erosion of freshman Pass/Fail is just a matter of time. From 18.03 to 8.02 is a small step — after all, one can imagine the argument going: EE's should have a solid grasp of basic electromagnetism, right? Lean on your faculty a little. After all, freshman Pass/Fail is one of the things that makes MIT different — and special. If we lose it, an education at MIT loses something too. Of course, we could always wait until they ask for your permission.

George Giacoppe '82

Coverage inaccurate

Class of 1984 has no member at large position

In the Editor:
I am writing to correct a statement in The Tech's UA Election Supplement of March 9, 1982, and to clear up a common misperception. The Tech reported that "there are no candidates for the position of ... the Class of '84 Member at Large (2 positions)." It is true that no one ran for these positions; however, this was because these two positions do not exist. Unlike any other class at MIT that presently and historically has had a class that has been the positions of Member at Large and replaced them with a Class Council. The decision to do this was made by our class last year during the spring elections when a memorandum mandating the creation of a Council was voted upon and passed by a large margin. Membership to the Council may be obtained by submitting a petition to the signatures of at least four class members.

Further, our class is unique in that our constitution was drafted by members of the Class Council in conjunction with The University Organization Review Group and the GAl other classes follow the Uniform Class Constitution drafted in 1965) rules for standing committees (whose chairpersons are elected from the Class Council) and makes provisions for ad hoc committees (e.g., Rating Committee, T-shirt committee, etc.). Membership on the Class Council is not a prerequisite to membership on these committees. I thank you for your time and attention.

Peter Tu '84

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One doctor can do little to help the misery of a developing nation. Unless he teaches others, who teach others, who teach others. Then there is hope.

George Giacoppe '82