Editorial
Alcohol problems need personal solutions

If the pervasive and conspicuous consumption of alcohol during Spring Weekend is an indication, MIT has joined a national trend: alcohol is becoming the "drug of choice" among college students. In response, the MIT administration recently established a task force to study ways to contain alcohol abuse on campus.

Attempting to prohibit or limit alcohol consumption by decree will not solve the problem. Alcohol is an accepted member of MIT social life, and this will not easily be changed. The pervasive consumption of alcohol at the Institute aggravates individual drinking problems, but the administration does not restrict the rights of the entire student body as a result. Individual help for those with drinking problems, and recognition of the condition by the student body, is needed.

The administration cannot forbid access to alcohol, but personal contact can help alleviate serious crises on campus. Treating the dangers of excessive drinking will not dissipate groups from serving alcohol at parties, but social chairmen can emphasize the dangers of excessive drinking. We should, and we have no English majors here. Therefore, let me answer the question: right, wrong? Wrong! The Tech has one of the most sophisticated fund-raisers at the moment, and hardworking students who are trying, in conjunction with the all-undergraduate Association, the Lecture Series Committee, the Council, and others, to improve student life at MIT. The Tech's efforts are not as strong as the student government's efforts to renovate and reorganize our commitments, but we have been able to diversify to help better serve students. We'll be taking an active role in helping to make it better. Spring Weekend: that's why I'm writing this letter.

Our committee either donated equipment, advisors and manpower to, or actually ran the '85-'86 Ice Cream Orgy, the Junior-Senior Pub, the Friday Afternoon Club, the Ichabod Tech, the Cheap Trick Concert, All-Tech Sing, the Midnight Masque, and the Picnic. In the Fri. Afternoon Pub, all of MIT around its big social happening of the week, right? Wrong again. The Tech's annual Spring Weekend press was a caption at the bottom of a picture. And how's the '85-'86 Ice Cream Orgy? Why couldn't they donate an ice cream truck? Or do and print a schedule like Baboos do? Why don't they even run a road x-ray paper machine that charges a penny and give away some x-ray machine. The Tech has been a member of the Undergraduate Association for years. It would be an advantage to keep our members happy.

Finally, political activists and students in general should see why write letters like this. These letters serve to separate the people who put all their effort into the Tech. Nobody would pay for The Tech. The Tech should be the money to buy or sell their poll, again putting The Tech in a winning position.

Consider the following:

First, First, The Tech does give authorship to most articles. The Tech's regular advertising rate is $5.30 per column-inch, one inch high by two inches wide, while the student rate is only $3.30 per column-inch. Since this charge is actually less than the average cost of this space, The Tech loses money on advertising, sometimes to the point of cancelling activities. The production depart-

1. Letter from the editor

The Tech recently received the following letter:

The Tech

To the Editor:

My first letter to The Tech and the first time I ever read a letter written to the campus newspaper. I was quite surprised to receive a letter so well written.

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Class officers should reject dout stand idea

Last week, I got a newsletter from the Class of 1985. This is the first time I have heard from my class officers, probably because the freshman and sophomore classes don't do much worth writing about. Brains rat and T-shirt designs, one ice cream study break per square inch, the proceeds of which are raised for a high school lab, and so on. We'll be taking an active role in helping to make it better. Spring Weekend: that's why I'm writing this letter.

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