feedback

Military needs study

To the Editor:

We are concerned about what may result from the commission that has been formed to investigate the major impact of military funding on research and education at MIT. Unless it is given sufficient funding, manpower, time, and freedom to conduct open-minded debate, it may produce nothing but idle chatter. This would be unfortunate because every person of MIT is entitled to operate under its freedom-owned assets.

Process flawed

The ODSA overlooked the frailties when it formed its plans for dry rush. An issue as important as this should not have appeared overnight, yet InterFraternity Conference (IFC) Chairman Tinley Anderson was "informed" of the necessity of a dry rush only a few weeks ago (on the same day as the last IFC General Meeting of the year). Tinley and IDOB Executive Committee have put forth a reasoned effort to safeguard some "process" out of the proposal; but for alcohol restrictions to ever work — for the policies to be anything more than documents used to reduce insurance premiums or to display in court — they must be understood and supported by the 1,000 men and women of the IFC, on whom the responsibility of enforcement will fall.

We have before us a dry rush proposal of little merit; to which MIT has had limited input. But with a little extra effort — and for the students — the Dean's Office could reach many of the same goals with a more reasonable year-round policy that would not sacrifice the beauty of rush, or the independence of the fraternity system.

Advice to be decent and responsible after graduation

Be humble. MIT prepared a lot of heavy-lifters who feel that the fate of the world rests on their brains. While this may not be true, as MIT alumni we are no proof of exceptional ability. Everyone was born with different abilities. That alcohol is Central Square is not a human being at your age. Respect everyone. God gave you the talent and ambition to aspire, to act, and succeed. You will. But don't let it take too long.

Be actively concerned with the world. Elect a president who won't increase military spending at the expense of social welfare programs and education. Be involved in politics — in every position from well-known, detailed visions of technology-price problems like the arms race.

We need more people in government who are technologically fluent. If we all possess, work for the Defense Department. If you must, we can make a good job. A faulty weapons system is inherently more dangerous than a fully operational one. Above all, strive to make the world a better and safer place for yourselves, your children and everyone.

And one more thing be careful and always look both ways before crossing the road.