Column Irresponsible; Impugns Counterpoint

The recent column by Bill Jackson '93 ["Thistle, Counterpoint Was Ragge in Print," Feb. 28] was a piece of irresponsible journalism. In his characteristically pompous style, intended to aggrieve himself and The Tech. Mr. Jackson conveniently mixed specious facts and tawdry opinion to impugn the integrity of staff members of both The Tech and Counterpoint.

Indeed, legitimate differences of opinion exist between Counterpoint and The Thistle in the area of student journalism. A Turk is not beyond the fray of this conflict, considering its substantial control of student journalism resources. Yet instead of responsibly and objectively reporting on all the issues involved, and thereby commenting on them, The Tech allowed Jackson to report isolated facts and editorialize on them at the same time.

Jackson has a history of attacking and trivializing competing student journals and journalists. A public apology is unlikely to be forthcoming from either Jackson or The Tech. But members of the community should be aware of this unethical journalism, so that they may demand better behavior, or seek the truth elsewhere.

P. Angela Hoch '94 and the editorial staff
of Counterpoint

Abortion Article Meant as 'Facts and Figures'

The Tech received a copy of this letter addressed to Alphelda J. Armendariz '93, whose letter in the last issue of The Tech challenged an article by Tech.

First, let me state that I was not attempting to "justify the killings" by giving a historical background of abortion. When I was given the opportunity to write the article, I was asked to write a "facts and figures" article. It was meant to be mainly a synthesis of facts rather than my opinion about the morality of abortion.

My argument is not that abortion should be a means of "population control." Rather, if a woman wants to have an abortion, she should be allowed that decision, and her decision may indeed be influenced by factors her her/his resolve to, including her ability to support — to feed, clothe, and care for — a child. I agree wholeheartedly with Monica Williams that "any woman who must say 'I had to get an abortion; I had no choice because I have no money' is a shame on us all." Yes, it is a shame and I wish it weren't so. Like everybody else, I wish we had enough food to feed the United States, let alone the world. However, I do not have a solution for these problems and I cannot personally insure that these poor women have the means to meet standards of living that every human being deserves. Therefore, if they feel that they simply cannot raise a child at that point in their lives, then it is their right to have an abortion.

Again, on the question of abortion, I do indeed realize that many people of color are living "in poverty and near-poverty conditions and cannot afford the abortion fees." Something should be done to change the way this system works. But until it is changed, I must continue to point out that it is not the perfect solution and some anti-choice activists would make it seem.

Emily Yeh '93

Tech Applauded for Not Running Holocaust Ad

I applaud The Tech's decision not to run the advertisement from the "Committee for Open Debate on the Holocaust." ["No room for 'Revisionists' in The Tech," March 3, "Tech Has Responsibility to Print Truth," March 3]. Instead, The Tech ran two columns which explained the situation and the reasoning behind the decision not to run the advertisement. These columns both pointed out a growing problem in our country — the growth of racism and hatred.

The column by Josh Hartmann and Bill Jackson showed this problem exists. If The Tech had printed the advertisement, it would have given credence to the argument. The only way to fight this problem of anti-Semitism is through education. Unfortunately, ads such as CODOH's misuse our means of education. If anyone wants more information about the Holocaust, the library is as far as you need to go.

This year, Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) will fall on April 30. In light of this advertisement and other public disclaimers of the Holocaust, I urge everyone to write this day down on their calendars. On that Thursday, if the MIT community can join together to show solidarity for the memory of the Holocaust, then maybe we can defeat CODOH and its supporters.

Michelle Greene '93
President
MIT Hillel