By Bill Jackson

In 1991, The Tech continued its tradition of taking stands on issues important to the students, the campus, and occasionally the state, nation, and world. This is a retrospective of editorials from 1991, with updates on the issues where relevant. Editorials are written by The Tech's editorial board, which consists of the editor in chief, chairman, managing editor, executive editor, opinion editors, and news editors. Editorials represent the opinion of at least a majority of the board.

Tuesday, Feb. 4. The Tech had cautious praise for the reorganization of Academic Council posts, which gave Arthur C. Smith the dual post of Dean for Undergraduate Position and Student Affairs. "Though the power of the new position is in an asset with Smith, it would be dangerous in the hands of anyone less interested in student welfare."

Friday, Feb. 7. While applauding the government and the Defense Contract Audit Agency for their efforts investigating and shutting down research funds by MIT and other universities, The Tech said that House Oversight Committee John Dingell's "hardball tactics boost his image more than they accomplish" the goal of stopping abuses. "No one can afford to gain from the harassment of institutions that are probably guilty of nothing more than a few fudged finances."

Friday, Feb. 14. The editorial board was split on the issue of an honor code. The majority wrote that "any honor code implemented in the current MIT atmosphere will simply result in a rush of students modifying their cheating techniques to work around the code, at least in their own minds," and that an honor code would have to be accompanied by a change in the atmosphere on campus. The four dissenting members of the board said that "an honor code will solve one of MIT's problems. The Institute must avoid the lure of a quick fix and focus on remedying flaws of the current educational environment."

Tuesday, March 3. When the Department of Chemical Engineering requested the permission of the faculty to offer a required course for majors, Chemical Engineering requested the permission of the faculty to offer a required course for majors, the "Corporal Politics" exhibit at the List Visual Arts Center received mixed reviews from students. The exhibit featured works by over 100 artists, including some from the MIT community, and was sponsored by the Department of Art, Architecture, and Planning.

Tuesday, March 10. Elections led to several endorsements by The Tech this year. In primary balloting, former Massachusetts governor Paul E. Tsongas was the choice, with one member dissenting for former California governor Jerry Brown. In the 31st March election, The Tech endorsed the ticket of Stephen A. Rinehart '93 and Jeremy H. Brown '94, with two members dissenting for Emily R. Prenner '93 and Anne S. Tsao '94 ticket. A third ticket, the "faint" endorsement by The Tech, was rescued by the "Corporal Politics" exhibit at the List Visual Arts Center. The exhibit featured works by over 100 artists, including some from the MIT community, and was sponsored by the Department of Art, Architecture, and Planning.

Monday, June 1. The Tech sharply criticized the National Endowment for the Arts' rejection of the "corporate" exhibits at the List Visual Arts Center. The exhibition was seen as "a corporate attempt to control the arts," and the rejection was seen as "an assault on the arts." The editorial called for the NEA to re-examine its policies and provide a "clear and consistent" framework for arts funding.

Monday, June 1. Speaking of the "free speech" issue of student newspapers, the editorial argued that "freedom of expression is a right, not a privilege," and that The Tech should do everything in its power to ease this process and provide the students with any information that will make the decision easier. The editorial recommended a program to give 10 percent rebates on textbooks.

Friday, Nov. 6. Regarding the harassment case against management professor Gabriel R. Bitran, The Tech praised the board for "its quick and fair handling of the problem that many other inner-city institutions need to face." The editorial concluded that the board had "done something about the problem in the Coop," and that The Tech had "recommended a program to give 10 percent rebates on textbooks."