Opinion

Grogo issue draws slames from community officials

By Mark James

The latest wrinkle in the Grogo controversy centers around an investigated claim from a non-existent person at the University of Arkansas. But for the time being, most readers of the newspaper are reading the story in a sensitive situation such as this one, a dash statement may be satisfied with Grogo's apology was printed.

To the Editor:

Mr. Wiesner and Chancellor Paul Gray may have planted themselves in such a situation — they solidly backed the charges of racism, and at the same time made reference to the Committee on Discipline charges. Soon after issuing the statement, Gray said that he had not seen the specific charges, but that he was easy for most readers of the statement to have concluded that Grogo and Wiesner supported these charges, an assumption that has now been rejected.

The original charges of William Johnson are highly illogical, and it seems unlikely that many people are really behind him, even though many persons did feel offended by the picture and do feel that some action should be taken.

Many of the aggrieved parties may be satisfied with Soule's apology. Others may find satisfaction in non-judicial remedies, such as programs to encourage understanding between the races, programs which are sorely needed at MIT.

But for the time being, most readers are being asked to work behind the scenes, instead of issuing public positions. Through this route, the controversy may be resolved without the divisiveness that would be a result of a Committee on Discipline decision. That the decision might be.

If it appears that no one is saying anything that may be the best solution after all.

Another problem scrutinized

To the Editor:

It seems that Dave Soule is fortunate that nobody has brought charges in the Committee on Discipline about the picture of a non-existent person captioned "Harry O. Wiesner in Grogo issue draws silence. The controversy has not been over, however, as the caption states that Mr. Soule harbors some irrational hostility and misguided cognitions about Arkansans, Southerners, and Americans, and perhaps misanthropic proclivities in general.

It would seem that these charges are at least as serious as those concerning Harvey Gray's picture, and I am surprised that nobody has brought them before.

Jerry Walker

Editor's note: Harvey Gray's picture is found in the Picturebook in this issue. He is an Arkansan, however, the caption of the letter is unattributed to the "Newspaper of the Eastgate Stop and Shop.

The Original Charges

The original charges of William Johnson, a non-existent person, are highly illogical, and it seems unlikely that many people are really behind him, even though many persons did feel offended by the picture and do feel that some action should be taken.

Many of the aggrieved parties may be satisfied with Soule's apology. Others may find satisfaction in non-judicial remedies, such as programs to encourage understanding between the races, programs which are sorely needed at MIT.

But for the time being, most readers are being asked to work behind the scenes, instead of issuing public positions. Through this route, the controversy may be resolved without the divisiveness that would be a result of a Committee on Discipline decision. That the decision might be.

If it appears that no one is saying anything that may be the best solution after all.