Buckholz alleges COD unfair

(Continued from page 7) as far as I know, this case is inactive," he explained. "[Buckholz and MacDonald] have been saying the same thing for a long time.

Buckholz, however, pledged to continue with his suit, saying he primarily wanted to restore his reputation. He claimed the incident cost him his prospective doctorate, as well as many professional and personal opportunities. "I think before this happened maybe 95 percent of the people I knew liked me," he said. "But then, everyone started thinking of me as some kind of monster."

Soon after the fight, Buckholz met with Randolph and Professor Nigel H. M. Wilson '70, head of the transportation division in the Department of Civil Engineering, to explain his side of the story. Buckholz alleged that Randolph said, "I don't believe you," and walked out.

Randolph denied this accusation. "[Buckholz] is either not telling the truth or is mistaken," he said.

Buckholz criticizes COD

Buckholz claimed the whole disciplinary procedure was rushed. "No one ever talked about giving Jeffrey Buckholz a fair hearing," he said. "All they cared about was getting the matter over with," he said. Buckholz's attorney MacDonald recalled Dean Osgood saying, "We [Professor Wilson] wanted to get the matter over with as soon as possible so that the department could return to normal."

MacDonald cited the fear of a lawsuit by Sheaffer as the reason for MIT's alleged haste. As evidence, MacDonald produced a memorandum to Randolph from Thomas R. Henneberry, assistant treasurer for insurance and legal affairs. The memorandum, dated April 1, 1985, states that Harry Sheaffer, as the department's attorney, threatened MIT with a lawsuit if the COD did not rule against Buckholz.

Henneberry strongly rejected the implication that his memorandum showed MIT was acting under fear of legal action by Sheaffer. "My words are being taken out of context," he said.

Buckholz criticized the way the COD handled his hearing on April 9, 1985. He charged that Sheaffer would not let him finish questioning witnesses. MacDonald also took exception to the COD procedures. While a witness was being questioned, the other witnesses in the case were allowed to remain in the room. "This is clearly a violation of legal practice," MacDonald said. "Sequencing of witnesses is a basic principle."

Buckholz and MacDonald were disturbed by the manner in which MacDonald was excluded from the hearing. Before the hearing, Buckholz was given a copy of the COD's Statement of Committee Procedures, which stated that a student may choose any "person of his or her choice" as an advisor. MacDonald admitted that Indian nationals were having problems getting visas to visit their homeland. People in the United States have sometimes been "thrown out of India," he added.

Earlier Monday, Kaul met with MIT Corporation Chairman David S. Saxton '41, then proceeded to an Indian dinner sponsored by the Sangeen Club for India affairs.

Ambassador Kaul succeeded K. S. Bagai who retired in May 1986, according to Sangeen president Gouramthy Kayyesanaram. President Emeritus Jerome B. Wiesner introduced Kaul, saying, "Unlike many ambassadors, most of his life was spent on international affairs." Wiesner added that Kaul had been in the United States for five weeks and that the ambassador attended Harvard University as a student.

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