Vest appointment called huge error

By Albert M. Ramstoll

The appointment of Charles M. Vest as MIT's 67th president on October 15, 1990 was a mistake, according to Carl M. Bapna, chairman of the MIT Corporation presidential search committee, and Professor E. McGeever, chair of the faculty search committee. Vest will continue to serve as president, however.

The search committees had actually interviewed 39 of 54 PhD's, but Vest was informed of the appointment rather than West due to a clerical error. West is chairman of the chemistry department at Occidental College in Los Angeles, CA.

"We're on a break now and he plans to spend the time working on a letter bomb for Mr. Vest. He was not pleased to hear the news," said Professor Paul E. Gray, "Chairman of the faculty was not a mistake, McGeever said.

Gray said the Corporation had considered Vest for the position for the past week, but did not consider Vest to be a suitable candidate. West did not want to be appointed chairman until we had decided his fate," Gray said.

The Corporation voted unanimously to allow Vest to continue as president. West, Not, Should. What difference does it make?

By Bette L. Ripoff

The annual Harvard Coop Cooperation's second annual rebate came negative for the first time in the history of the rebate. As a result, Vest, now - 9.9 percent, requires Coop customers to pay an additional 0.0001 percent. The price of the items purchased during the past year, the rebate will be mailed to customers soon, said Vest.

"We were a bit surprised by the announcement," said Herman. Senior House tutors Bubbles, who will remain on the UA Council in an advisory role, was outraged by the announcement. "I am still in a state of shock. I can't believe that I was chosen by the administration."

Herman, however, was dropped from consideration of the UA appointment for President. "I am a little disappointed," he added.

"I thought that the timing of the decision was poor. But the whole thing, I don't expect it to have much of an effect on student life," he said.

Wrighton also thought that his decision would have little real impact. "Traditionally the vice- president has not made any definitive contributions to the MIT community. I do not remember any past vice-presidents doing anything," said Wrighton. Former UAVP Colleen McSwiney '91, who spoke with Herman, agreed.

Herman says appointment was "a total surprise. Herman, a junior majoring in Urban Studies and Planning, was a serious candidate for the position, but was pleased to be informed of the appointment rather than West due to a clerical error. West is chairman of the chemistry department at Occidental College in Los Angeles, CA.

"I don't know what to say. It was a total surprise. But it seems like a pretty neat job," he said.

"I haven't really been involved in student activities before," Herman said. Herman was, however, involved in the publication of VoxDoc, MIT's nearly defunct humorous newspaper. VoxDoc is not a West reality, it isn't very funny and no one reads it. It beats the heck out of Tech, then," he added.

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Besides, I usually ignore the U. Arthur's opinion when I make decisions," he said.

This was Herman's only decision aware of his appointment last week, he has already developed a plan to rekindle the debate on the issue. Herman said the issue was under consideration in the UA, the speed of the elevators in the Austin Student Center, running P. Peewee's Playhouse on MIT Cable, and, of course, governing the MIT Corporation.

Herman thinks many students feel alienated by the current organization of the UA. He hopes to take a more direct approach to solving the problem. "I hope to get a job as a cashier at MIT. There are all sorts of people there," he explained.

"We have every reason to believe that you will protest. I will use your tuition, people would just think you were a little bit better," he said.

"The Coop is really trying to improve the quality of the items they purchase," said Herman. "As a result, we have decided to purchase some additional items. The rebate represents a drop of 0.0001 percent points in the price of the items purchased during the past year. This represents a rebate of 0.0001 percent. The price of the items purchased during the past year was as high as 9.2 percent.

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Herman took a strong stance on the tuition, error correction issue. "I will protest. I will use the stairs," he said. Herman said his insensitivity should not be a problem.

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Reports of the negative rebate have led to widespread fraud, said Associate Dean R. Blah, campus police chief and MIT's chief of police. "We have received reports of widespread fraud, including the recent deaths of a goat, and a 7 year old boy, who purchased the books," he said in a huff.

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