Jury Rules for MIT in Harassment Suit

Bitran Did Not Sexually Harass
By Brian Rosenberg

A 13-member jury found Tuesday that Professor of Management Gabriel R. Bitran did not sexually harass former employee Barbara Pierce, who accused him of sexual harassment. The jury also ruled against Erulkar on her claim that Bitran and MIT discriminated against her in their enforcement of workplace harassment policies.

“Nichols thought he was the lead counsel on the Bitran case, but that’s not true,” said Sarah E. Gallop, staff person of the DoD policy. “To the best of my knowledge, the only case on this policy that we have ever had is the Bitran case.”

Johnson said that another case, Col- belle-Town v. WACD, is “the lead case on the question of whether the language of ‘severe and pervasive’ comes straight from there.”

“Let’s be very careful if a court finds [the instruction] erroneous,” she said. “I don’t think [the decision] will change anyone’s behavior, but harassment will continue to be a problem and will feel unacceptable because of it.” Johnson said.

Concerns over reaction

Johnson and Erulkar expressed concern over the reaction the decision will generate. “I don’t think [the decision] will change anything’s behavior, but harassment will continue to be a problem and will feel unacceptable because of it,” Johnson said.

Clinton Win May Bring Variety of Changes to MIT

By Katherine Shin

Bill Clinton’s victory on Tuesday may render moot the controversy over the ban on gays in the Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC), a Department of Defense policy which conflicts with MIT’s nondiscrimination policy. If Clinton wins, the policy will continue to allow the three ROTC units to remain on campus, according to MIT officials.

Reversing the military’s gay ban has been one of Clinton’s campaign promises. “Clinton has said publicly that he would reverse the directive, which means the change could be as simple as signing an executive order... Also, groups [including the American College Counseling Foundation] that MIT that have been following the issue will provide pressure on the Clinton administration,” said Sarah E. Gallop, staff person of the ROTC Working Group at MIT.

The current DoD policy has homosexuals, lesbians, and bisexuals from serving in the military. The Navy, Army, and Air Force ROTC units at MIT are required to follow this policy. Gay students cannot be commissioned for ROTC and students who are found to be gay are disenrolled from the program. One of Clinton’s campaign promises.

The ROTC program has surprised college administrators, because it is a problem that has not been a significant in the past. Clinton was in favor of keeping the policy, but that might change under Clinton.

The Working Group has been designing a report to present to the faculty on any potential changes that might occur. If the program is not renewed, the faculty would recommend discontinuing ROTC.

MIT reviewing policy

MIT has been reviewing the discrepancy between the ban in ROTC and MIT’s nondiscrimination policy. According to Gal- log, in October 1990, the faculty addressed the issue of discrimination against homosexuals in the ROTC program and recommend- ed that MIT should try to change the DoD policy. The MIT ROTC Working Group was established at that time to try to change the DoD policy.

The Working Group has been planning to present a report to the faculty on any signif- icant progress in 1993. If progress at that time is not sufficient, the faculty would recommend discontinuing ROTC for stu- dents entering in 1993.

MIT is the best school to ROTC students.

Rogers Runs for President, Loses

By Michael A. Sagnaw

The 1992 election was political career of Hartley Rogers Jr. began when he was in his 5th grade. A nice girl in his class nominated him for class secretary. His name was Barbara Pierce.

After grade school they drifted apart. Rogers became an assistant professor in mathematics and among other academic endeavors, he has been teaching Calculus I (11) for several years.

This year, however, some stu- dents looked to him as more than just a math professor.

Two weeks ago Anthony C. LeBeau ’93, a resident of the presidential race with some friends. He joked offhand that Rogers should be President. “I was wondering who I was going to vote for, and I thought of Hartley Rogers,” LeBeau said.

Then his friend Steve C. LeBeau ’93 wrote a letter to the president of the dorm, requesting that Rogers run for president. “I wanted to make sure he would be [the signs],” LeBeau said.

Then, on Oct. 27, Rogers told his

Candidate Hartley Rogers Jr. warms up for another grueling day on the campaign/lecture trail.