Press squealces rumor of grant

Rumors that MIT had received a substantial federal grant to study earthquakes in the Denver area were denied Wednesday by Professor Frank Press, Head of the Department of Geology and Geophysics. Professor Press and his staff of a community formed a year ago under federal sponsorship to study what the Federal government should do about a recent series of earthquakes near Denver.

Linked to well

The earthquake discussion may be linked to a possible deep well disposal project located at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal. In the past, earthquakes have been observed to coincide with times at which the well was punctured with a probe; although no such probe has been pumped in for a year and a half, the earthquakes have continued. As a result, Rep. Dan Borenstein (R-Colo.) has called on Dr. Donald Horning, President of the Denver Geological Society, to establish a panel, presumably a successor to the now-disbanded Press committee, to investigate the situation.

Still advises Horning

The committee will not be a grant-apparent body when Rep. Borenstein received a letter from Dr. Horning stating that he would meet with MIT officials concerning the connection of earthquakes to the well and that he is still advising Dr. Horning on this problem even though there are no plans to investigate this problem. Rep. Borenstein is also aware of this situation and has not requested even though there are no plans to investigate this problem.

Sensory expert dies

Dr. John Kenneth Dupress, 45, director of the Center for Sensory Training and Development, and an authority on devices to aid the blind and deaf, died Friday following an apparent heart attack.

Blinded in war

Dupress, blinded as a result of war wounds, was a former director of technological research for the American Foundation for the Blind. He is a pioneer in both psychology and engineering, he was a leader in applying modern principles to develop devices to aid the blind.

Dupress was born May 16, 1922, in Fitchburg, Mass. He entered the army in 1943 and was wounded in World War II. He was wounded by an exploding hand grenade in the Battle of the Bulge, resulting in the loss of his sight and right arm.

Blasted at Princeton

Following the war, he studied at Princeton, Lehigh, Louisiana State University, and the University of Colorado. His hobby was high fidelity recording, and for a time he operated his own recording studio.

He joined the American Foundation for the Blind in 1956, and began paying visits to the Research Laboratory for Electronics soon after. He eliminated the interests of faculty and staff both at RLE and in the Department of Mechanical Engineering toward the application of electronics to aid the blind.

He joined RLE staff

After working here part time for a few years, he joined the staff at RLE full time in 1963. He was named director of the Center for Sensory Aids and Development when it was established in 1964 under a grant from the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. The center tests devices developed elsewhere as well as at MIT to determine its precise value.

Some of the devices evaluated at the Center include mobility devices, emerging ergonomically suitable, radiation, and sonar; maschines that can recognize high-speed-printing Braille texts and even a bell with an electronic "beep" that blind children can locate by hearing.

Dupress was the author of numerous papers on sensory aids and a frequent speaker at international scientific meetings. He was a member of the Human Factors Society, and the American Foundation Association. He maintained residences in Boston and Old Lyme, Conn.

Wagner takes first place in college chess tourney

Carl Wagner '61, won individual first prize in the Intercollegiate Chess Championship held Dec. 30-Jan. 2 at Illinois Institute of Technology. Wagner's score of seven wins and a draw placed him first by a half-point over 80 other players. Wagner added to his title by tying for first place in the Intercollegiate Closed Championship.

Team places fifth

Despite Wagner's fine performance, the Mit team placed fifth. Larry Kaufman '61, Larry Schmitt '70, and Dave Donaren '69 were the only players to perform the humanization task of telling the student on probation what sum of money he would have to achieve next term or else. In short, a student can perform his deficit until proven innocent under this system, which perhaps sheds some light on why MIT has never had a Law School.

The ever present cum, or 1.40-too damn little

By Robert Dronach

Today, the dreaded but inevitable presence of the "dunning clause" is no threat to the scores of all freshman with the possible exception of those notorious tools who sport 5.00. A quick look into the history of this venerable institution, however, reveals that the seemingly current discovery that current policies on probation and disqualification (that time-worn expedient for "shuffling out"), in exasperation to the procedures of days gone by, are beginning to open a breach in the barrier.

From Registrar with love

From 1930 to 1939, each student received a handy four-page memorandum from the Registrar's Office to chide and scold which bore the formidable title of "Explanations of Scholastic Rating System. Which Applying cumulative rating." This awe-inspiring document delineated the conditions for a true "cum," provided three term-year levels of "minimum scholastic standards."

The essence of these vital statistics was that they not only portray the plan and the underpinning knowledge of the exact point below which he was to be either disqualified or expelled, but based on past performance had even performed the humanitarian task of telling the student on probation precisely what sum of money he would have to achieve next term or else. In short, a student can perform his deficit until proven innocent under this system, which perhaps sheds some light on why MIT has never had a Law School.

1.40-too damn little

The foremost and most solemn statement of the "cumulative clause" was that "if a student's work is below 1.40 too damn low!

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