The MIT Planning Office has released a report: no funding yet available

By Paul Schindler

The MIT Planning Office issued a report, under pressure, in January. The Report: A Development Plan for Athletic Facilities at MIT as The Flitch this week (see p. 109). The report was finally finished in March, but publication of the recommenda- tion was prevented by admin- istration officials due to fears of an impact on fund-raising.

No significant money has yet been raised for any portion of the proposed program, which involves construction of a new athletic facility and events center. The site and nature of the site have not been deter- mined, pending consultation with potential donors. The site has been selected however (see story at right).

Renovations

In addition to the entire renovation of several buildings, which is to house indoor skating rink and other athletic facilities as well as present seating for 600 spectators and flexible seating for 800, major renovations have been proposed for all other facili- ties, and new indoor facilities suggested for Ashdown and Techport.

The idea of improving current facilities was considered and rejected by the Planning Office. They state: "Careful investiga- tion of interim solutions led us to conclude that the benefits of providing improved facilities promptly would be at some time in- creased expenditure and would work against the efficient land utiliza- tion required in long range develop- ment."

Use increases

The report explains that all the changes and money are needed because of the changing nature of demand for athletic facilities: there are more casual users who live close by, there are more women, and the mandatory physical education requirement for women.

The report calculates that the current community of 17,570 at MIT (faculty, staff, students, and employees) will grow to 21,660 by 1985. Thus, if the number of athletic card holders grows at a comparable rate, there will be between 8,138 and 10,592 people able to use the facilities, where there are only 7,533 today. This presumes con- tinuation of the current changing pattern of facility use.

The summary contains a con- ceptual statement of the existing MIT attitude towards sports: "If the MIT community in a lifetime of healthful athletic recreation which will contribute to the physical and mental health and well being of each individual at MIT. It is the expressed hope of the Planning Office that this new plan will allow flexible growth of the system in the future, depending on demand and avail- able funding.

Watergate takes its toll

When quizzed about the incident by the grand jury, Gray replied that he had burned the docu- ments on orders from Dean and president of the Watergate affair (until then he had been "on the outside") making accusations against Dean and Nixon's former chief of staff H.R. Haldeman. Haldeman has been charged with the original planning and subsequent covering up of the Watergate break- in, as well as the removal of documents from Hunt's office.

In his letter of resignation to President Nixon, the former head of the Domestic Council said that although all of the charges against him were "shockingly unfounded," his position on the White House staff was "no longer tenable in order to straighten out the allegations concerning his involvement in Watergate.

Also using the pressures placed upon his party, Gray said that although new documents which had been made public at the time, it became increasingly evident that the FBI reports, which were transmitted by Gray, and co-ordinated the high-level cover- up. Haldeman has been considered to be the White House aide closest to the President, and is one of the "top four" among Nixon's closest aides. His resignation came shortly after he had resigned his post as the grand jury that had investigated the break-in and Watergate conspiracy.

Haldeman's relation to the Watergate case has been described as the "director of operations" during the Watergate cover-up. He has refused to testify in the original hearing, and now faces possible indictment by the grand jury as well as the Senate Select Watergate investigating commit- tee.

Haldeman's letter to the

(PIE: turn page 5)

In spite of the uncertainties of the admissions process, it is safe to say that as of 5 pm yesterday 749 male students and 123 female students have accepted admission to MIT in the class of 1977. 230 have not yet replied, or else their applications have been received (reply date was Mon- day). Director of Admissions Peter Richardson, in his report to the MIT ad- mittees that a class size of 900 will be achieved. (The Tech February 6, 1973 et al.)