Inside

Writing Program Lecturers Sanford Kaye and Joseph Brown refused to cooperate in a routine staff evaluation.

The Tech, the weekly sports column returns to the Sports Section. The first Foul Shots takes a look at how violence in pro hockey has affected school hockey games and their spectators.

In the News

Lincoln Lab Director Gets Defense Post

By David B. Kerster

Gerald P. Dinneen, professor of electrical engineering and director of the Lincoln Laboratory, was nominated by President Carter last Friday to be an assistant secretary of defense.

The nomination, announced at a press conference, carries no designation regarding area of work. Dinneen told The Tech that he expects to be working in "a number of areas, as assigned by the Secretary of Defense."

Dinneen, who came to MIT in 1953 as a staff member in the Lincoln Laboratory's Data Transmission Group, has been director of the lab since 1970. He said that it was a "very difficult decision to leave MIT at this time, particularly to leave Lincoln Laboratory."

"I'm very honored," he added, "that the President and the Secretary of Defense selected me, and I look forward to working with his Administration... to help them achieve their goals."

"For Harold Brown, I have the highest respect," Dinneen said, "and I'm really glad to give him that." As an assistant secretary, Dinneen would be part of Brown's cabinet.

The nomination is subject to Senate confirmation. Dinneen noted that he expects the hearings to be held "within the next week or two," and he plans to testify before the Senate subcommittee this weekend. He said that the MIT community "wishes him well in the important work he will soon undertake in behalf of the nation's defense."

Dinneen, 52, received his bachelor's degree in mathematics from Queens College in 1946, shortly after a three-year stint in the US Army Air Corps. He did his graduate study at the University of Wisconsin, where his thesis was examined by Edward T. Schneidner in a doctor of philosophy degree in 1952.

Until January 1953 he was a senior development engineer at the Goodyear Aircraft Corporation in Akron, Ohio, where he performed research on applications of analog computers to real-time control systems.

Seven years later joining the Lincoln Laboratory staff, Dinneen undertook in behalf of the nation's defense. As associate director of the laboratory from 1966 until his appointment as director in 1970.

The following year Dinneen was appointed professor of electrical engineering. In April 1975, he was elected to the National Academy of Engineering, the highest commendation in the profession. He is currently a member of the Executive Committee of the Assembly of Engineering of the Academy.

Baker sophomore David Gaskin unofficially broke the world record for "elbow coin catch" at 1:18 am Sunday by balancing 66 quarters on the palm of his hand. Gaskin, a native of Irvine, California, has been practicing the stunt since junior high in search of the record. It took nearly two hours of attempts to break the mark.

Foul Shots

More tuition not the only way to make headway, and by mid-October MITYT announced that it would test a new financial system program on a regular basis.

In early 1973, a report was presented to Sloan on the subject of educational cable television. In this report, more elaborate goals to be accomplished over the following three years were described.

Viewing the cable

The MIT Cable: two years and $1 million

By Kent Piman

Editor's note: this is the first of several articles assessing the MIT Cable system; what it has done, and what lies ahead.

Two and a half years ago, the members of the Center for Advanced Engineering Study (CAES) recognized that our institutional processes were lagging behind current technology. In an attempt to remedy the situation, the MIT cable television system was created.

On Sept. 3, 1974, a proposal was submitted to the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, requesting financial support to "institutionalize its experiments with, and use of, video communications in carrying out its educational mission."

The proposal outlined the intent of CAES to develop "experiments curricular materials, evaluate technical and instructional results, build a cable communications system of novel design," and alleviate technical difficulties in such a system.

The report offered detailed descriptions of the various courses which could benefit by the incorporation of video instruction aids into their normal curricula. It also outlined formats for courses which did not exist, but which could be created if video were made feasible for classroom use.

The Sloan Foundation responded favorably to the proposal with a grant of $60,000 to be used by CAES over the next five years.

Many of the projects which had been proposed immediately began to take hold, and by mid-October MITV announced that it would test its first cable news program on a regular basis.

In early 1973, a report was presented to Sloan on the subject of educational cable television. In this report, more elaborate goals to be accomplished over the following three years were described.

These included:

1. Stage 1: Telephone Feedback and Simulated Video Interaction. A series of "discussion and question video-monitored temporarily live... but recorded for later replay," would be presented via the cable.

2. Stage 2: Computerization of student feedback. This was described as a system in which "students will be asked to input their messages directly to a computer system... and the computer will then log, files, and distribute the messages as required."

The following years will be spent on cable communications system design.

The MIT Budget: an analysis

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A group of students have attempted to alleviate this situation and back up their criticism of the magnitude of the tuition increase with proposed alternatives for raising the money.

"We don't claim to be financial geniuses," said Pedroff, "We looked at the cable's first news program on a regular basis.

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