CAP to examine 90 cases

By Laura Farber

The Committee on Academic Performance (CAP) will be deciding Monday whether or not approximately ninety students will be asked to withdraw from MIT next term.

The number is "very slightly lower" than in previous terms, according to E. Jane Dickson, Administrative Assistant to the CAP. Fifty-five students, 1.3 percent of those registered, were required to withdraw from the Institute last term.

"Just because we're looking at them doesn't mean that they will be required to withdraw."

These students not receiving a Required Withdrawal will likely get put on Academic Warning. A number of students have already been put on as a result of the Grades Meetings held by the CAP in conjunction with Course representatives last week.

Although the final number is not yet known, Dickson predicts that the number of students on Warning for upcoming terms will be "pretty normal."

Last spring, 204 students—4.7 percent of those registered—were put on Academic Warning.

Students being reviewed Monday's Deferred Action Meeting received letters informing them of their Academic Warning or Withdrawal. The letters urged students to see their advisor or any other person who can justify their poor academic performance to the CAP.

The CAP members feel that their Deferred Action Policy gives a "fair break" to the student.

Dickson also pointed out that students do not appreciate the fact that MIT considers personal reasons for poor performance, while certain other schools throw a student out even if he's had "Moo" all term.

Reagan will bring era of "confusion"

By Stephanie Pollock

It is possible that the "rather elderly white males" of the incoming Reagan administration will create "a decade of terrible disorder and blighting and confusing." According to former Representative Robert Drinan.

Drinan, speaking in 10-250 Tuesday night, predicted that despite ample cause for concern on the part of liberals, the 1980 election would prove to be an expression of disillusionment with President Carter rather than a radical ideological shift to conservatism.

The US has not, observed Drinan, "witnessed a revolution as profound as that of 1932" when the liberal philosophy first took hold. Drinan said that Americans were simply scared this time because they saw "failing before their eyes the ideal of a constantly rising standard of living." Drinan does not feel that the gains of the liberal era will be washed away, and that there would be no "generation-long shift to the right."

A computer puts a notation by a student's name on the end-of-term Summary Sheet. "Flagging" them, if their cumulative average is less than 3.0 or if the term load was less than 36 units.

"The limit of 36 units is only used to close a student at the Grades Meeting," explained Jef- fred Spivak '82, a student member of the CAP. "It isn't a limit under which warnings are immediately given out."

Many students are under the impression that if the product of their cumulative average and their term credit load is greater than 100, they will avoid being flagged by the computer. This "multiplication system" was abolished by the CAP four years ago because it turned out that certain students with a 3.0 average on many units were escaping notice.

The public first felt the effects of the shortage this past Monday, when the towns of Lowell and Cape Cod practically had to "shot down." Lowell city officials declared a state of emergency, closing all schools and asking all businesses that could not switch to other fuels to close as well.

Schools throughout most of the Cape were also closed.

Official intent to re-open the schools Friday. This would be a loss of only one school day, as today is a statewide holiday. In addition to the school closings, the gas companies asked all residents to turn down their thermostats ten degrees; other customers were asked to lower them to 40 degrees.

Drinan represented Massachusetts' 4th Congressional district from 1970 until 1980, when the Pope denied him permission to run for re-election.

Drinan has been the only Catholic priest in Congress; a practicing lawyer before running for Congress, Drinan recently began teaching a course on human rights at the Georgetown University Law School.

The former dedicated anti-conservative allevi- ated the fact that this liberal philosophy had accomplished as much as was possible. He cited the Head Start Program, food stamps, and job training programs as important products of the liberal Democratic era of 1932 to 1980. Drinan noted that liberals had "miles to go before we sleep," mentioning the extension of pension services, improved occupational safety and the eradication of poverty — particularly among blacks — as important but unfinished tasks.

Drinan sees the Reagan administration as having its "back to the wall," with perhaps six months to prove itself to the scorned and disfigured American people. Diminishing the conser- vatives' supply side economics as "snafe oil economics," Drinan predicted that "like most of us, [the Republicans] will not be thinking long-range." Drinan summarized the Republican philosophy as wanting to cut taxes, fraud, and fat — and who can be against that?

Drinan admitted that his "vi- sion of the world is very tragic at this moment." He sees areas con- trolled as "miscellaneous one moral and scientific problem in the world. "War is unthinkable — war always creates more problems than it resolves." The continued rise of the defense

Patience is a virtue. Page 4.

Sweeney Todd has opened at the new Metropolitan Center, and it's a cutting, sharp com-edy. Page 6.

The Dark, a local new wave band, appeared at the Rat.

The Book of Lists #2 is out, and true fans are happy as can be. Page 6.

MIT's winter sports teams will be seeing plenty of action this weekend. Page 8.

Gas difficulties hit Mass. Bay area

By Richard Sale

"It's going to be scary. You're going to turn on your gas range and all you'll get is a flicker... and no heat," said Boston Gas spokesman Frank Articole. Articole was explaining what would happen if stringent conservation measures weren't enforced.

A bitterly cold winter and some mis- calculations have resulted in a gas shortage that now threatens to turn the Commonwealth into one large frypan.

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Officials intend to re-open the schools Friday. This would be a loss of only one school day, as today is a statewide holiday. In addition to the school closings, the gas companies asked all residents to turn down their thermostats ten degrees; other customers were asked to lower them to 40 degrees.

Plains had been made by the U.S. government and the Cape Cod Gas Company, in cooperation with the state to switch over to liquefied natural gas reserves, a more expensive fuel imported from Algeria, while cutting down on their natural gas use.

In his State of the Common- wealth speech Monday night, Governor Ed King assured the two localities that the worst of their problems were over. King had been re-assured that there would be no problem with getting the Algerian supplies quickly, and Boston Gas spokesman they said they would have "no problem" meeting their gas requirements until the crunch had eased.

Less than 24 hours later, however, the company was calling on the state for help during this coldest January on record. King quickly declared an "energy emergency" and ordered the number of state-wide conserva- tion measures.

The utility had apparently mis- calculated their needs so badly that an emergency declaration was required to cut consumption and get Boston through the next...
World

Iranian solution drawn nearer — "We are going to release the hostages in two or three days or try them," said Iran's chief hostage negotiator Behzad Nabavi, addressing the Iranian parliament. A number of Western diplomats said that Nabavi's speech seemed an attempt to prod the Mullahs into action. The parliament adjourned, however, after passing only one of the bills necessary to implement part of the proposed US settlement.

Rome paper relents — Rome's largest newspaper has agreed to publish propaganda from the Red Brigades, the Italian terrorist group, in an effort to save the life of a judge held by the Brigades. The paper is broken with the ranks of the other Italian papers who refused to yield to what one of the men called "terrorist blackmail." The Red Brigades first demanded Judge D'Urso to death for deciding which inmates should be transferred to maximum-security prisons.

Begin postpones election decision — Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin postponed until Friday his government's decision on whether to call early elections while one of his ministers tried to work out a plan to hold on to power through the summer. Leaders of Begin's coalition have twice postponed a decisive meeting, and with the session now scheduled for Friday, it means a final decision is almost impossible before Sunday, when the Cabinet meets next.

Poles strike, briefly — Thousands of workers at a coal plant struck yesterday in a town near the Soviet border, where the Soviet command of East Bloc forces met with the Polish Communist Party chief. The two-hour strike was to support farmers seeking to unionize in an effort to save the life of a judge held by the Brigades. The paper is broken with the ranks of the other Italian papers who refused to yield to what one of the men called "terrorist blackmail." The Red Brigades first demanded Judge D'Urso to death for deciding which inmates should be transferred to maximum-security prisons.

Weather

Mostly cloudy today with more mildach 30. Winds will be light and eastery. Some light snow or flurries may begin this afternoon or even-

Nation

"Super" tampons dangerous — A study conducted by the Minnesota Health Department said that women who use "super" absorbency tampons ran a much greater risk of getting toxic shock syndrome than those who use smaller, less absorbent ones. The study found that all users of a "super" tampon were 17 to 30 times more likely to get the disease.

Weather

Mostly cloudy today with more mildach 30. Winds will be light and eastery. Some light snow or flurries may begin this afternoon or even-

Why Choose Nuclear Engineering As A Career?

The Nuclear Engineering Department will answer this question.

1-4pm Friday, Jan. 23 Room 24-115
1-2pm Opportunities in Nuclear Engineering 2-3pm Panel Discussion with Industries Representatives. 3-4pm Refreshments and Informational Discussion.

MIT students learn the art of sleight of hand in the IAP activity "Close-up Magic."

Photo essay by Jonathon Cohen

Several local high technology companies are inviting students to spend a day with them during IAP. Meet the top brass and get a first hand look at the company. Transportation and lunch provided. Call the company to sign up — today!

Jan. 20
DATA GENERAL
Ms. Tina Alger
1-365-8611 x4507

TERADYNE
Ms. Lynn Swensen
482-5700 x2286

Jan. 21
UNITRODE
Ms. Sylvana Deluca
926-3404 x250

ANALOG DEVICES
Mr. Ed O’Brien
329-4700 x1530

Jan. 21
THE FOXBORO COMPANY
Mr. Bruce Hainsworth
1-543-8750 x2844

INTERMETRICS
MS. SUSAN SIMON
661-1840 x2121

Jan. 22
COMPUTERVISION
Ms. Barbara Nannis
275-1800 x2538

MILLIPOR
Mrs. Gloria Ebb
275-9200 x2107

Jan. 23
Hewlett-Packard, Medical Products
Mr. Brad Harrington
980-6300 x135

If you have any questions, call Bonnie Jones in the alumni center, 10-110, x38222
**Patience, Patience**

Steve Solnick

A future thing happened to me on the way to Harvard Square the other day. I didn't get there. Instead, I spent 45 minutes in 15 degree weather waiting for the Harvard bus. I finally gave up.

I took refuge in the coop where I waited 15 minutes to buy a roll of film. I finally gave up.

I went home where I have been waiting for the Registrar to produce a copy of my transcript so that I may apply to graduate schools.

They say all good things come to those who wait. I was beginning to doubt it.

On the other hand, I got to thinking. The last year has actually been quite a good one for patient people.

Take Paul Gray, for example. After a wait of 30 years in Cambridge, he finally made it to the top of the Tech heap.

George Bush may get the same thing if he can only wait a little bit longer.

Henry Kissinger was resurrected after only seven years. Or, at least his foreign policy was. If you doubt this, you need only look at the south way over by our former Secretary of State, Alexander Haig:

"Neither serves the purposes of social justice nor the vital interests of America to pursue policies under the rubric of human rights, which have the practical consequences of driving authoritarian regimes friendly to the West into totalitarianism. Where they will remain, as a permanent animosity to the American people and our in-

Must that also have brought a smile to the face of many a South American despot, who has also been waiting eight years for such a tune to rise over Washington.

McCarthyists have been waiting 25 years to hear government aides declare, "The threat to the internal security of the Republic is greater today than at any time since World War II." Congressional and Revolutionary protesters have been demanding the removal of internal security committees in Congress to counter the threat to "internal security."

McCarthy must be looking down (up?) on us with a beards face.

Anti-environmentalists get what they have been waiting for since the mid-sixties, the first Secretary of the Interior, like LBJ.

Defense contracts like Simon Ramo (of TRW) just what they have wanted since World War II: control over the civilian science advisory committees in Congress to counter the threat to "internal security."

Philadelphia get what it always wanted: the Phillies win World Champ-

ians and the Eagles with a shot at it.

Back on the homefront, either William MacLean or John Freeman may finally say a bridge named after him after patiently waiting through scores of years of obscurity.

Finally, perhaps the best news of all, the MIT mate may finally be able to declare, "I'm a席." While Harvard fans go fan for a few weeks, it is generally the MIT guys who call back and are forever waiting.

Hooray for us.

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**RICHARD SALZ**

**Tugging on heart strings**

Performers, politicians, and others appearing in the public spotlight have a number of key sentences in their vocabulary which they can use to get an automatic and predictable reaction out of their audience. For example, a stand-up comedian will often open his act with, "Gee, it's great to be here! Isn't Greater North Podunk a wonderful town?" If it is said sincerely, the crowd will be rolled yells and cheers. Having that warmed up the crowd and lessened some of their inhibition and embarrassment, they are more likely to listen to his other jokes. Johnny Carson uses this technique almost every night. "How many of you are too much too this Thanksgiving?"

Likewise, a politician may end his speech with, "We have had enough; America isn't going to be a second-rate power any more!" If said with energy, he can then walk off the podium and out of the auditorium leaving a cheering crowd behind. This was also the exact wording of Ronald Reagan's campaign slogan, and George Bush ended many of his speeches with a similar phrase.

The two above examples illustrate a well-known fact: it is much easier to get a reaction from someone by appealing to them on an emotional level than a rational one.

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**EAST CAMPUS PROTESTS DINING**

The dining report, which was presented in December 1979, called for a complete examination of the dining on the east side of campus, to include either kitchens in either East Campus or Senior House, improvements and expansion of the Emerson Market, or the construction of a house dining hall.

This investigation has yet to be started. The only result of this dining program was to increase the chances of being crowded during the meal hours. The crowding, crowds, and noise problems are worse than ever. The residents of the east campus dormitories feel that the administration has not kept their end of the bargain.

The residents now request that the promised improvements be started immediately, or the residents will stop doing dining program for the residents of the east campus dormitories.

Eric Oelters

East Campus President

**GRAY SHOULD SPEAK SOLO**

Apparantly, the Commence-
ment Committee is beginning to look for a head community repre-
sentative. But why? This will be the first commencement under our new MIT President. What would be more appropriate than having the President speak solo? To follow recent tradition and give the June 1981 Commencement Address.

Steven Piet G
Sweeney Todd: sheer delight

Sweeney Todd, the Demon Barber of Fleet Street at the new Metropolitan Center through January 31. Starring Angela Lansbury and George Hearn, directed by Harold Prince.

The tale of Sweeney Todd, the murderous "Demon Barber of Fleet Street," has been captivating audiences for over a century. The story first appeared on the stage in Victorian England in 1847 and has been popular ever since. Steven Sondheim's current version playing at the Metropolitan Center is ample explanation of its popularity.

The show, which won the 1979 Tony Award for best musical, is an avalanche of sheer theatrical energy. Sondheim's score is the most operatic one to hit Broadway since Porgy and Bess.

The title role is an exhausting tour de force by George Hearn. Portraying the vengeful barber who goes on a jugular-cutting rampage, he is at one moment cold and brutal, at another pitiful, and another positively droll. His frenetic build to a climactic explosion of stage blood is artfully complemented by the performance of Angela Lansbury as Mrs. Lovett, the batty baker who sees Todd's victims as a cheap source of filling.

There is a diverse collection of songs, all distinctly Sondheim. Some are hauntingly beautiful, like the recurring theme "Joanna." Others are hauntingly witty and upbeat, like the act I finale, "A Little Priest," in which Sweeney Todd and his baker companion Mrs. Lovett concoct their cannibalistic scheme.

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Now, where did you put that camera?

IAP is a great time to dig out your camera, dust it off and rediscover photography. Don't run out and buy film, however. Drop by The Tech's office in Student Center Room 483 instead, and use our film and darkroom facilities. Just help us out — and you can help yourself.
Everybody has an opinion

Whether the show was a hit or a flop, whether the actors deserved roses or tomatoes, whether or not the second movement was moving, everybody loves to tell their friends about their night out. What better chance to spread the word than to write for the Arts section of The Tech? Interested in increasing your exposure and lowering your expenses?

Just come by our office in Student Center Room 483 any Tuesday night during IAP, and tell us about it.
Women's basketball — In the midst of a three-game losing streak, coach Jean Hickey's team attempted to return to the winning track at Endicott Saturday at 1pm. After five games a 1-4 record, Annis Flynn '83 is the team scoring leader with an 11.9 average. Donna Wilson '82, the team's top rebounder, is out for the season with a leg injury.

Men's basketball — Coach Fran O'Brien's 6-5 squad completed a three-game home stand with three wins in five days last week. The team now faces Bowdoin on the road Saturday at 2pm. The Engineers finished the month of November with a 3-4 mark, but were winless in five games last month, and are currently undefeated in the new year. Mark Branch '83 was named to this week's ECAC Honor Team in Division III on the basis of his career high 19 points in last Saturday's 74-72 win over Bates. Branch is the Engineers' top rebounder, is out for the season with a leg injury.

Men's basketball — Coach Tim Walsh's 8-7 squad completed a three-game losing streak, coach Jean Hickey's team attempted to return to the winning track at Endicott Saturday at 1pm. After five games a 1-4 record, Annis Flynn '83 is the team scoring leader with an 11.9 average. Donna Wilson '82, the team's top rebounder, is out for the season with a leg injury.

In fact, if these five words describe you...