Boston rally turnout low
By Alex Makowski
Fewer than 600 people turned out at Government Center for a city-wide ecology rally yesterday afternoon. 
Featured speaker was Congressman Michael Harrington, who promised continued efforts to pass effective environmental measures through the House of Representatives.
Harvard Ecology Coalition members, organizers of the rally, suggested that the poor attendance was a result of college student pre-occupation with finals on campuses. One speaker blamed certain media for creating the myth that ecology issues were a cop-out, thereby driving away support.
Harrington's speech Whatever the reason for the low turnout, chilly weather took its own toll, and by the time Harrington spoke an hour after the rally began less than 300 were on hand. Harrington criticized "those politicians in a race to see who can discover the latest angle in the battle to save the environment," but who show little concern for substantive programs.
Before ecological action could be effective, he continued, a new philosophy of approach is necessary. "When man destroys a work of man, we call him a vandal. When man destroys a work of nature, we call him a developer." Such an ethic must change; the time when man can ride roughshod over his environment, Harrington stressed, is long gone. "We have to remember man's interdependence with nature.
Rick Mayer, Harvard Ecology Coalition spokesman, told the crowd that Harrington and other speakers were chosen to reflect the political action necessary to save the environment. Ecology experts were passed over in favor of local political leaders.
Disorganized march The rally began with a rather sluggish march to Boston City Hall. Leading the demonstrators was a Harvard student bearing the fifty stars. The marchers, who numbered two or three policemen standing watch at each corner. The demonstrators bore placards reading "Don't treat the Earth like dirt!" and "Warning: Pollution - it stinks!"
Marchers arriving at Government Center found tables set up by such conservation groups as the Sierra Club and the Andover Society. English folk singer Tim Holler, an entertainer at the April 15 rally, sang for the crowd, and powerful amplifiers bounced his words off the Government Center walls, adding an eerie quality to his tunes about the environment.

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