CAP to examine 90 cases

By Linda Farhi

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.

It 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, Dickson noted. "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 Warning 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 the upcoming term will be "pretty normal." Last spring, 204 students—4.7 percent of those registered—were put on Academic Warning.

Students being reviewed at Monday's Deferred Action Meeting received letters informing them of an imminent 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 his 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 students throw a student out even if he's had "Mons all term."

By Stephanie Pollack

It is possible that the "rather elderly white males" of the incoming Reagan administration will create "a decade of terrible cloister and drifting and confusion," 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 dissatisfaction 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."

Reagan will bring era of "confusion"

By 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 Articolo. Articolo was explaining what would happen if stringent conservation measures weren't enforced.

A bitterly cold winter and some miscalculations have resulted in a gas shortage that now threatens to turn the Commonwealth into one large stove.

The public first felt the effects of the shortage this past Monday, when the towns of Lowell and Cape Cod practically had to "shoot 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.

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

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Reagan urged young people to be "well informed, to protest, and to be ready to support their views. He found it "particularly distressing that young people don't participate" in elections. During the lengthy question and answer session following his brief prepared address, Drinan quipped that preparations was necessary since young people "need to know what new outrage they're [the Reagan Administration] perpetuating today or tomorrow."

MIT starts high-tech S.M.

By Steven Salzberg

In an apparent modification of its previously articulated position, the Institute announced yesterday that it would offer a special part-time degree program for engineers in high-technology industries.

MIT's new Master's Degree Program for Students in Industry will allow high tech employers to obtain a Master's Degree while working largely on a part-time basis and doing their research in their place of employment. Unlike a related degree program for high tech industry offered by Stanford University, the new degree would require a one-term residence and a regular Master's thesis.