CAP considers readmissions

(Continued from page 4)

tion of a semester are found usually only if there are extenuating medical or personal circumstances, accompanied by strong support from the Office of the Dean for Student Affairs or the Medical Department.

The petitions for readmission of a semester almost always center around financial difficulties.

Until last year, students who did not pay their tuition bill were withdrawn from the Institute and were not permitted to register until they settled their account. Students who lost a ROTC scholarship or who were unexpectedly denied a loan in the middle of a semester were faced with the prospect of finding a new source of support in addition to completing their course work. This encouraged students to complete the semester and to petition for readmission of the full semester when they had their accounts settled.

In the past, students have petitioned the CAP to reenroll one, two, or even three semesters. MIT obviously does not want to encourage students to take subjects without paying for them, but it is extremely difficult for the committee to deny such a petition.

A working group with representatives from the area of student financial services developed and implemented a new policy last spring: students who had been denied readmission three times, four, and even five times, yet still were petitioning again for readmission. If the committee does not believe you truly want to be successful, they have denied you access at MIT and recommend that you go elsewhere for your education, believe it.

Unfortunately, the CAP does not have a student and deny possibility of readmission. There were several readmission petitions last year from students who had been denied readmission three, four, and even five times, yet they were petitioning again for readmission. If the committee does not believe you truly want to be successful, they have denied you access at MIT and recommend that you go elsewhere for your education, believe it.

Second of three parts.

"This summer Ronald Reagan asserted that 'religion and politics are necessarily related.' He defended this thesis by saying that politicians cannot ignore moral issues, and that 'religion is the basis of all morality.'

That last line got a lot of applause from the fundamentalist ministers he was addressing, but it is certainly questionable. In fact, when leaders of groups like the "Moral Majority" denounce athletes as evil and dangerous, they often warn their followers to have a rather childish view of morality: you'd better not lie, cheat, and steal because God will send you to Hell, and since atheism don't believe in God or Hell you'd better watch out, as there's nothing stopping them. Nonetheless, the first premise of Reagan's rhetoric is valid. Politicians cannot ignore moral issues. But, they ought not to. Almost any political act has a moral dimension. Even something as mundane as a change in the tax code raises issues of fairness. (Remember Geraldine Ferraro's famous line: "[Reagan] claims to be a good Christian but I don't believe it because his politics are so terribly unfair.")

Consequently, since it is one of the jobs of religious leaders to speak out on moral issues, it seems strange to tell them to keep silent during political campaigns. That is fine, many will say, but don't we have to draw a line somewhere? After all, we don't want to reestablish organized religion in public schools, or outlaw birth control, do we? Actually, the Catholic church in America has not said recently that birth control should be outlawed, although it has resisted legalizing it in other countries.)

Well, it's a free country, and if (Please turn to page 8)

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