Reagan addresses Gov’t Center crowd

By David P. Hamilton

President Ronald W. Reagan addressed an enthusiastic crowd of six thousand at Government Center yesterday.

"I am especially pleased to see such a sizable crowd," Mr. Reagan said, "because I am going to say some things that you will probably not like very much."

In a tightly controlled atmosphere, heightened by limited access, light security measures, and long lines, Reagan emphasized his commitment to keep American strong by maintaining defense in a series of cutting and to continue to lower taxes and create jobs.

"The moment is here, we need to introduce the other policies on the table," he continued. "Big government, with Shamie in Washington for taxes."

"And it is in the city whose record fiscal and determination ignited the American Revolution that I want to announce an American Revolution."

The president quoted Abraham Lincoln. "We must disenthrall ourselves from the past in order to face the future."

In this case, the past was the record of the previous administration, which Reagan compared to a "ship drifting at sea. Alluding to the changes set in motion by his administration, he said: "During the past few years, we have begun navigating by certain fixed principles: freedom, our country, and common sense, our compass."

The president continually attacked Democratic presidential candidate Walter Mondale and his economic plans. Reagan claimed that if Mondale would have to raise taxes an average of $1950 for every household in America. "That's about 115k a year a year a year a year (Please turn to page 10)"

Mondale faces Republican mountain

By Robert E. Malekman

Political analysts were split yesterday on whether Democrat Walter Mondale could win re-election in Minnesota, but also the country's last Democratic president, to elect Republican presidents.

Since the death of Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1945, the Republican candidates have won 21 electoral votes, 12 in 1964, and others 90. The two most recent candidates outpolled Democrats during the period, with both winning 252 million votes. Reformers have won five of the last nine elections and three of the last four.

The tendency toward a Republican presidency is anomalous considering that other scientists, Democrat usually win. The House of Representatives has been in Democratic hands since the mid-1930s, and until 1980. The recent most recent elections further demonstrate the historical Republican mountain Mondale must climb. Republicans averaged 154 electoral votes to just 137 for Democrats. A liberal needs 270 votes to win the presidency.

Reagan's 1980 Republican Convention was held in New York, Ohio, Tennessee and Hawaii, of the 19 states west of the Mississippi River, have voted Democratic in any election since 1968.

Brian Donnelly has won the presidency the century without (Please turn to page 9)

SCEP discusses EECS overenrollment problem

By Michael J. Gannon

The Student Committee on Educational Policy (SCEP) met last night to discuss long term solutions to the Course VI overenrollment situation. Their multi-conclusion was that MIT needs to improve communications between departments and their potential students.

According to a survey compiled last year by Professor Thomas J. Allen PhD '66, a member of the Corporation's Board of Admissions, at least 40 percent of all MIT students believe the department they major in is too large for their high school graduation. Another 30 percent choose before the end of their freshman year.

The SCEP determined that any long-range solution would have to include a program of honor in forming students of the total academic program that MIT resources.

"Most people don't really have an accurate idea of what MIT is," explained one speaker. "How many people know that MIT has the best linguistics department in the country, and one of the best economics programs?"

The committee noted the importance of making sure students know what other departments have to offer, especially in the large departments. This could involve bringing prospective students here and showing them general and more specific information to the outside world, or asking freshmen advisors to explain more of the options open to undecided students.

"We don't want to hurt the MIT image," noted one student, "but maybe we need a larger pool of applicants." The committee discussed possibly dropping the current high school physics requirement, but did not propose any specific action.

Several possible changes were proposed as possible changes in Course VI itself, including the introduction of an EECS minor program and a move to split Course VI-B (electrical engineering) and Course VI-C (computer science) into two departments. The CAC survey also showed that over 60 percent of the respondents chose their majors because of a "satisfaction with the subject," leading the SCEP to inquire into the possible effects of Project Athena, now and after its completion.

"Students will have a lot more exposure to computers," noted one speaker. "But we'll just get (Please turn to page 11)"

Jack E. Link

Jack E. Link '83 died Monday at Boston University Hospital following a long illness incurred when he fell from the hospital's roof. The 23-year-old employer of Newslett-Packard had been working at the hospital, developing computer systems for medical applications. Link majored in computer science and lived at Baker House. He was an associate news editor and a staff writer at The Tech, was technical director of the MIT News Service, and was active in sports.

He leaves his parents, Thomas and Nancy: two brothers, James and Stephen; and a sister, Catherine, all of Palatine, Ill. Memorial services will be held Wednesday at the hospital; funeral and burial services will be held in Illinois.