Intercollegiate football has returned

By Todd Curtis

History was made Sunday when the MIT football club took the field at Fitchburg State. For the first time in 33 years, MIT played an intercollegiate football game.

Although the final score (27-12 Fitchburg) was not ideal for an historic occasion, the enthusiasm of the fans was appropriate. More than 100 loyal Beaver fans trek-ked to Fitchburg to cheer the team on. This may have been the largest crowd of MIT fans ever to attend an MIT away game in any sport.

In the beginning, the game seemed very promising for MIT. The Beavers received the opening kickoff and proceeded to march down the field, directed by quarterback Bruce Wrobel '79.

The MIT running backs flowed through the Fitchburg defense continually. The biggest gain of the drive came on a 12-yard pass and a subsequent 15-yard penalty for piling on which brought the ball to the Fitchburg 14.

Wrobel kept the drive alive when he ran a quarterback sneak on third-and-six for an eight yard gain to the two. On the next play, Jeff Olson G scored MIT's historic first touchdown on a drive up the middle. The extra point kick was off to the right and MIT led 6-0.

Unfortunately, the half went downhill from there on. The ball was almost continually on the MIT side of the field; it was never placed in play inside the 50-yard line. The MIT offense lost more yards than it gained.

Fitchburg took the kickoff following the touchdown and marched down to the MIT 17 before failing to convert a fourth-and-two situation. MIT gained only one yard on the next series and the ensuing punt left Fitchburg on the MIT 42. The MIT offense lost more yards than it gained.

Fitchburg then marched in for a touchdown which came on the first play of the second quarter. MIT had a chance to stop on another fourth-and-two play, but this time Fitchburg made the yar-dage.

Fitchburg made the extra point kick good and took a slim 7-6 lead.

On the kickoff, the Beavers fumbled the ball and Fitchburg recovered on the MIT 42. Fitchburg's Falcons had a golden opportunity but the MIT defense prevented them from scoring a point.

Fitchburg managed to push the ball to the five-yard line, but the...

(Figure to page 8)

Freshman pass/fail under examination

By Jay Glass

For the first time since the Special Grading Committee's report on MIT's experimental pass/fail grading for freshmen in 1972, the Ad Hoc Committee on Grading will be seriously reviewing the pass/fail system as part of its major examination of MIT's grading policies.

According to Alan Lazarus, Acting Dean of Stock-Affairs in charge of the Office of Freshman Advising, many people in favor of re-evaluating freshman pass/fail believe that freshmen don't devote a much time and effort to their studies as they would if they received letter grades. He said, however, "I see no anecdotal evidence that this is true," and that "when freshmen spend time on a subject, it is generally because they are very interested in it and not because they have to work for a grade in that course."

A report from the 1972 pass/fail Committee noted that one of the chief strengths of the pass/fail system was its influence on the student's choice of major" by allowing them to explore, experiment, and learn what they did and didn't like. Although a con-siderable number of students seen unaffected by the pass/fail grading, the report said that it encourages freshmen to take more subjects, follow their in-terests, and contributes to a generally more relaxed atmosphere." Lazarus agreed with the report saying that "freshman pass/fail encourages exploration of different options," particularly...

Memorial held for dead student

By Richard Duffy

Baker House and the MIT Shakespeare Ensemble jointly held a memorial in the Chapel yesterday afternoon for Stu-art David Picking '79, who died in a mountaineering accident early last month.

According to information from Jeffrey Norris '79, a friend of Pick-ing's, the tragedy occurred while Picking and another friend were attempting a difficult descent from Mt. Hood, Oregon. Both fell to their deaths when some snow and ice broke loose in the high August heat. The two were experienced in mountain climbing.

Three scenes from Shakespeare which Picking had particularly liked were enacted at the memorial. It was a religious memorial service — Picking's parents requested that a secular event be given in his memory. Picking, who was majoring in electrical engineering, was active in the Shakespeare Ensemble as an actor, as well as in the MIT Outing Club.

No new arguments are ex-pected for or against pass/fail grading during freshman year when the re-evaluation begins. Even so, Lazarus urged all "in-dividual students, especially freshmen," to talk with their ad-visors and discuss the re-evaluation of freshman pass/fail.

IN INSIDE

Two documentaries about subcultures in American life were reviewed in the Arts page. They turn out to be rather different both in con-tent and in quality.

The Tech reviews Robert Altman's new film, A Wedding, a kaleidoscopic view of the American institution of the tent and in quality.

Clear to partly cloudy today with cool temperatures and variable winds. Highs in the mid 70's with partly cloudy skies. Lows Wednesday night still pleasant.

Looking ahead: Thursday...
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Maryland. Washington, D.C. Tennessee, California, Massachusetts.
Admissions at the Georgetown University Law Center will be holding a group meeting in Room 12-150 at 5pm on Tuesday, Sept. 26 for prospective students interested in applying to Georgetown.

The organizational meeting for the Tech Show will be held on Thursday Oct. 5 at 7:30pm in Room 407 of the Student Center. Anyone with any interest in the Tech Show is welcome. For more information contact Mike Connor at x3-9535 or x5-9479.

* Rita Jones, Assistant Director

** MIT seniors who wish to apply for a Danforth Foundation predoctoral fellowship award must submit an essay concerning their plans for graduate study by Oct. 20 to Dean Jeanne Richard in the Graduate School Office (Room 3-136). For further information call Dean Richard at x3-4869 or go to the Graduate school office.

* Graduate students who wish to apply for the Danforth Postbaccalaurate Fellowship Award should submit a short essay to Dean Jeanne Richard, The Graduate School Office, Room 3-136 before Oct. 29, describing their graduate study and plans for a career in university teaching in the United States. Graduate applicants should hold a Master's degree or an equivalent number of graduate credits. Information is available in the Graduate School Office, Room 3-136, or call Jeanne Richard on x3-4869.

* Seniors in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science who wish to apply for graduate work in that department in 1979 have already been asked to submit their graduate applications by Nov. 1. Seniors in other departments who plan to apply for admission during 1979 are urged also to apply for graduate study by Oct. 20 to Dean Richard at x3-4869 or go to the Graduate School Office.

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Will MIT campus age gracefully?

By Bob Wasserman

MIT made the move to a Cambridge campus over sixty years ago, and this campus is beginning to show obvious signs of age. For an esteemed eastern institution of higher learning, sixty years is relatively young for a school campus. The question arises whether MIT will age gracefully like Harvard, or turn to urban sprawl like Northeastern University.

Many of the well-worn areas on the MIT campus are in that condition because of sheer student pressure. The steps leading to the front entrance of the 77 Massachusetts Avenue Building have been scooped out by students' feet, and the banisters of the stairs are slippery and worn with the passing of human hands.

Other signs of wear and tear are the result of curious habits of the student body. The noise of George Eastman has become tarnished and smooth on the plaque in memory of this benefactor of MIT in Building 6. This is apparently the result of numerous rubbings of his nose by students hoping for good luck, similar to the custom of rubbing the foot of the Statue of Abraham Lincoln in the Lincoln Memorial in Washington. Nor is Eastman the only historic MIT figure to have their memorial treatments. In such a way, a similar plaque near the Great Court of Margaret Conpton with a top-half view is shiny in two embarrassing places from years of handling by MIT men.

And the two domes of the main building, famous symbols of MIT intellectualism, are becoming green from weathering.

In a letter to Technology Review, May 1978, Eaton J. Clogher 'It tells his impressions of a visit to MIT in 1976: "... we wandered about in some of the old buildings. I was disgusted—glumly ill-lit corridors... it looked like an old-time poor farm. The place was dirty." Granted that his visit was on a "draf, drizzly, raw day" in November. Clogher may be a picturesque voice from the past and Clogher speaks as one of the students who attended a new and idealistic MIT campus when it first came to Cambridge.

Without over-emphasizing the condition of the MIT grounds, the MIT campus as Clogher knew it has undergone drastic changes, not always for the better. An excellent example of the modernization of the MIT campus is the East Campus area. New buildings have been added on haphazardly to the old main building; these include the Dreyfus Chemistry building and the Biology and Nutrition Science Building. The Green building, designed by I. M. Pei, dominates the surrounding area, and what was once a neat grassy court has been paved for the adornments of the 77 Massachusetts Avenue NE.

The incredible climax to the Camp David summit meeting was a natural for television. It was pure drama, many times more exciting than an hour of "Lora Green's space-travelling Ponosier surviving TV's best special effects, and far more compelling than All in the Family garnering its 47th Emmy.

As a Jew, I was fascinated by this crucial step in the peace processes that might bring security to Israel and a harmony of sorts to the Middle East. However, as the speeches were on and the signings progressed, I began to wonder what the 97 percent non-semitic majority of Americans thought of the proceedings. Were Mr. and Ms. America captivated by the international diplomacy? Did they sit in front of their television sets awaiting the end of the pomp and protocol? Did they simply go to bed early, passing up the last million dollars' worth of Galaction's pyrotechnics? If they chose the last route, then our hypothetical Kansas couple missed one of the best displays of high-step diplomacy that an American president since John Kennedy adopted the city of Berlin.

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A Wedding marries wit and satire.

By Kerrie Cunningham

Gaudy but simple, flashy but unpretentious, Robert Altman’s latest film, A Wedding, is the epitome of its director’s work. Its principal source is a love story, but the final result is a panorama of “the last of our culture’s big situational comedies.”

A Wedding concerns precisely that: the traditional marital ceremony and reception joining two young people, although in this case the marriage is between the multi-millionaire and the nouveau riche, so the ceremony and reception are the last of their kind. Finally he gives the sign of the Cross to end the ceremony: “In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.”

The storm dies down and the party continues. The bride’s grandmother has died, leaving it for someone to tell the family, and the bride’s sister Buffy (Mia Farrow) reveals that she is four months pregnant with the groom’s child. Two family meetings are called. The bride’s father cross-examines the groom, who protests that he wasn’t the father. “How do you sleep with Buffy? ‘We were married!’ she says. Does she have ‘other’ husbands?” his father asks Buffy, “How many?” Buffy starts counting on her fingers and has to refer to someone else’s to finish counting the poor thing.

When Altman’s picture, such as A Wedding, is like watching a river, see it is content to sit and watch it flow by. Events such as a guy dragging the sick groom into the shower with him or an intercontinental affair pass by as unacceptably as does a leaf on the water. The viewer smiles without thinking, and is quietly led on to the next situation. Unlike M*A*S*H, A Wedding is not an uproarious picture, it is simply funny. It is not distinctly memorable, it is just pleasant.

An Altman film, which is the primary distinction of his work, is not an uproarious picture, it is simply funny. It is not distinctly memorable, it is just pleasant.

Watching an Altman picture, such as A Wedding, is like watching a river; see it is content to sit and watch it flow by. Events such as a guy dragging the sick groom into the shower with him or an intercontinental affair pass by as unacceptably as does a leaf on the water. The viewer smiles without thinking, and is quietly led on to the next situation. Unlike M*A*S*H, A Wedding is not a poor picture by any means, for the laughs are consistent and recurring, and the impression of atmosphere is very real (we can sympathize with the bride and groom as they struggle on the water). When “it’s over, it’s really over.” The film is simply satisfying, which is not a bad thing to say about it, after all.

A Wedding opens at the Sack Cheri, Boston on Wednesday, Sept. 25.
The Popovich Brothers no Pleasure

By Joys West

The grouping of The Popovich Brothers of South Chicago with Always for Pleasure is not a surprising one. The two color documentaries, each an hour long, are partially sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts, deal with folk music as a pivotal aspect in the lives of a segment of American society. With the former movie, it is a Serbian-American life as influenced by the Popovich Brothers, who for 50 years brought their tamburitza orchestra to Serbian communities across the country. In the latter case, the subject is New Orleans, Dixie jazz, and the celebrations that pervade the life of its residents.

In Always for Pleasure, producer/director Les Blank chose to convey a simple message in his portrayal of an extremely small city in America you can feel, well... free. The result is seeking to chronicle, the Popovich Brothers, who for 50 years brought their tamburitza orchestra to Serbian communities across the country. In the latter case, the subject is New Orleans, Dixie jazz, and the celebrations that pervade the life of its residents.

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Fitchburg spoils football club's debut

(Continued from page 1)

Falcions were forced to try a field goal on a fourth-and-goal play. The kick was wide to the left and MIT took over the ball on the 20.

This time MIT gained just two yards and had to punt the ball again. Fitchburg returned the punt to the 35. Five plays later, the Falcons had their second touchdown on an 11-yard reverse. The extra point kick was no good and the Beavers had their second touchdown on a 36-yard sweep on the right side. Fitchburg's run attempt failed and the Beavers just one point down.

Unfortunately for the Beavers, Fitchburg quickly spread their lead with a 66-yard drive. The Falcons returned the kickoff on an awesome 42-yard sweep on the right side. Fitchburg's run attempt failed and MIT remained within reach of a touchdown and an extra point. The offense failed to move the ball, though. Wrobel was never able to set up in a passing pocket and was sacked several times. Fitchburg scored an insurance touchdown in the fourth quarter. This time, the Falcons successfully ran a two-point conversion to give them the final 27-12 margin. MIT did present two final scoring threats. Turnovers stopped each and Fitchburg ran out the clock.

The MIT defense did an outstanding job considering the number of scoring threats it had to stop. Mike Riss '79 led the defense with numerous big tackles.

A crowd of about 800 watched the game. The outnumbered MIT fans were very spirited in their cheers although they did not once yell, "Gimme an M, gimme an A, Gimme an S . . . .

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Sports

Fitchburg spoils football club's debut

the second time on fourth down. The Beavers were given a second chance, however, when Fitchburg fumbled the ball back on the eight yard line. This time the Beavers cashed in with the touchdown coming on a fourth down quarterback sneak by Wrobel. The run attempt for the extra point failed but the Beavers were just one point down.

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Graduate Student Council Seats Presently Open for the 1978 Academic Year

Course:
VI: Electrical Engineering
VII: Biology
IX: Psychology
XI: Earth & Planetary Science
XII: Sloan Mgmt. School
XX: Political Science
XX: Nutrition & Food Sci.
XX: Linguistic & Philosophy
XX: Interdisciplinary Science

Program: 1 Seat

GSC Standing Committees
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Activities Committee
Housing & Community Affairs Committee
The above Committees have many openings if you would care to apply. You are not required to be a Council Representative to serve on these Committees.

Graduate Student Council "Open Hearings" For Seats On Presidential & Faculty Institute & Corporation Committees

Call the Graduate Student Council Office (3-2195) or drop in at the Walker Bldg, 50-110 (Charles River Side) for Information and Appointments.

Interviews on September 27, Wednesday, Room 4-159 & 4-161 Starting at 5:00 p.m. for the following committees:

Faculty Committees
Committee on Educational Policy (CEP)
Committee on the Library System
Committee on Student Environment
Committee on Discipline

President Committees
Commencement Committee
Foreign Scholarship Committee
Equal Opportunities Committee (EOC)
Committee on the use of Humans as Experimental Subjects
Committee on Safety
PreLaw Advisory Council
Community Service Fund Board
Activities Development Board (ADB)
Ad Hoc Committee on International Institutional Commitments

Other
Intramural Council

Please watch for flyer announcing the above around the Institute.