Sophomore-Freshman Football Game and Cane Rush.

The day was certainly a propitious one for the annual struggle between the two lower classes, and the attendance of outsiders was noticeably large. An unusually goodly number of fair maidens graced the bleachers and furnished inspiration for their friends below.

The Freshmen and their supporters in '98, occupied the east side of the field, while the Sophomores and their allies, the Seniors, stood on the west side.

The Football game was hard fought from beginning to end, both teams being evenly matched. The playing of each team was rather erratic, and there was a good deal of fumbling and offside play throughout the game.

'99's interference was very good at times and was far superior to that of 1900, which was often easily broken up. 1900 had a slight advantage in weight, but this was not evident in the game. The 1900 line held well in the first half, but was decidedly weak in the second. Captain Paget played a good game at half back, and made most of the gains for 1900. Jouett also played well. For '99, McBride, Ferguson and Samuels did the best work.

The game began with a kickoff to 1900. The Freshmen started the playing with a rush and soon forced the ball to '99's five yard line, where it was lost on downs. '99 then rushed the ball to the other end of the field, and sent McBride over the line for a touchdown.

Ferguson kicked the goal, making the score 6 to 0 for '99. The half ended with the ball in the middle of the field. Between the halves there was some scrapping. A number of '99 men made a raid on 1900's banners, but 1900 turned the tables by destroying the Sophomores' three transparencies. The second half was not very exciting until near its close, when 1900 got the ball on '99's Five yard line. Here occurred a feature of the game, which is decidedly objectionable, that is the repeated encroaching upon the field by '99 men and upper classmen. In this instance some of the men were fifteen yards inside the side lines. Of course this delayed the game, and possibly prevented 1900 from scoring. As it was, 1900 failed to advance the ball the necessary five yards, and thus lost the chance to score.

The Sophomore's flag flew from the pole during the first half. In the second half, however a number of '98 men sauntered carelessly toward the pole and put up a sandy Freshman, named Durgin, who succeeded in cutting it down when it was soon torn in pieces by the crowd. The line-up:—

1900. 1900.
Hoxie... r.e.l. Knight
Eaton... r.t.l. Jouett
Slocum... r.g.l. Angus
Harrison... c. Miller
Fowle... l.g.r. Keimer
Copp... i.r. Oppenheim
Himan... l.e.r. Cotting
Blake (capt.)... q.b. Whitman
Samuels... r.h.r. Paget (capt.)
Ferguson... l.h.r. Gilson
McBride... t.h. Hurd


There must have been many faint-hearted ones in both '99 and 1900, for the number of besiegers as well as defenders of the cane was noticeably small. But what they lacked in numbers they made up in fierceness, for never was there a harder fought rush. For twenty minutes the crowd surged and heaved without any apparent advantage for either side. During this time the mass of men traveled from one end of the field to the other. It was nearly dark when the whistle blew to stop, but no one thought of stopping, and, as it was, Referee Allen had all he could do to count the hands, ten minutes later. When a count was finally made, it was discovered that each side had nineteen hands, thus making it a tie, the first that has ever occurred in an M. I. T. Cane Rush.

The upper classmen took a good deal of interest in the rush, and some even went so far as to actually reach the cane. They formed a ring around the struggling contestants, and woe to the man that showed a desire to stay on the outside of the pile.