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The Tech

Page Three

athlete of the week

John McElroy, holder of 11 of MIT’s track and field records, and proud possessor of many regional and national titles, more than deserves the right to be Athlete of the Week.

John, who was brought up in Hartford, Conn., attended high school at Mertonburg Academy. He participated in basketball during his sophomore year, but surprisingly didn’t step onto the track until his senior year. In the meet of this latter husky youngster, John was 6’3” and weighed 190, was quickly recognized by coach Henry Curnyn. John wasted no time in taking advantage of this valuable winning ability, and was able to place second in the national pentathlon championships in the shot put. At the end of the year he was elected co-captain of his high school track team.

As a freshman at MIT he worked under coach Arnie Arness as the shuttle-hunter, discus and javelin, setting freshman records in the first three of these. He was elected Freshman Athlete of the year by the Quadrigle Club, and was elected, along with Tommy Hoffinan, 56, as co-captain of the sophomore track team. In his sophomore year he qualified on the sophomore field relay team. This ability was 1 unbelievable to John as he ran a 6.4 in 100 in high school. A week bothered by a back injury that year, he was Mid-Atlantic sid, put together a fine season in the I.C.A.A.A. championships. He also set the Mid-Atlantic hammer record which he broke again last year.

Last year John placed 4th in the I.C.A.A.A. 35 lb. weight throw, he placed third in the shot, and also broke his Mid-Atlantic hammer record.

John now stands 6’2” and taps the scale at 200 lbs. He recently broke the intercollegiate record for the 55 lb. weight, finished second in the meet.

The first week of this season he placed 4th in a N.Y.A.C. meet with a put of 37’ 9” behind John O’Brien, who holds the world record, and two former I.C.A.A.A. champions. John, who is the captain of this year’s team, is looking forward to making this his last year of collegiate competition, it his best.

Activity-wise John has not confined his efforts to athletics. He is a member of the Q club, Beaver Key, and the Symphony Orchestra. In his junior year he was made chairman of the elections division of the executive committee. In his senior year he was also secretary-treasurer of his class, and Secretary-Treasurer of the Junior Press Committee. He has been IFC representative, member of the executive committee, and president of his fraternity, Sigma Chi.

URING THE WEEKEND

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