Shooting Ranges - MIT Eyesores

As the Second Century Fund continues to grow and Institute expansion plans are released, one project is notably missing: the construction of modern target shooting facilities.

To be sure, the rifle range is not generally seen by visitors to MIT, but its status as the campus eyesore cannot be denied. And the pistol range, which, in serving both students and faculty occupies less space than the Ping Pong Club headquarters, can hardly be termed an asset.

In a recent two year period 600 incoming freshmen expressed interest in organized shooting. Yet there are only 60 undergraduates presently associated with the rifle and pistol programs. This drastic reduction can be directly attributed to the lack of adequate practice facilities. The rifle range boasts five firing points, the pistol range four. At other colleges 24 points are not unknown.

The amazing fact remains that MIT’s varsity teams have done well in both sports. Last year the rifle team captain, Bill Leffler, was eighth in the National Rifle Association Intercollegiate Individual Championships, which drew 1390 competitors. This year the rifle team is undefeated and the pistol team has drawn the sincere praise of the Coast Guard coach. We can only imagine how well these men would perform, given decent facilities.

Boston is a stronghold of the nation’s shooting enthusiasts. The MIT Faculty team leads its division in the Greater Boston Eyeke, un-ion the nst by eil Les -h-nd Delel of d. We hope that MIT’s shooters will be adequate practice facilities. The rifle range boasts five firing points, the pistol range, which, in serving both students and faculty occupants, is less space than the Ping Pong Club headquarters, can hardly be termed an asset.

The Institute pays a quarter of a million dollars a year for telephone calls. Between five and ten men from the telephone company are on duty at the Institute at all times.

On Deck
Today, January 13
Hockey with Pennsylvania 7 p.m.
Squash at Princeton

Tomorrow, January 14
Basketball (V&JV) at Trinity Basketball (F) with Exeter Academy 7 p.m.
Fencing at Brandeis Hockey (F) at Gov. Dummer

Rifle with Navy 10 a.m.
Squash at Navy
Squash (F) at Exeter Swimming at Amherst
Swimming (F) at Exeter Track with Bowdoin (V&F) 1 p.m.
K of C Track Meet 7:30 p.m.
Wrestling (F) at Phillipse
Saturday, January 28
BAA Track Meet 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, January 29
Skiing at Brown Slalom, N. Conway, N. Hampshire
Mid-Term Trips
Rifle (January 30-February 4, at Coast Guard, St. John’s, Navy, CCNY, Merchant Marine Academy).
Basketball (February 1-4 at Hartford, Stevens, Johns Hopkins)

Wednesday, February 8
AAU track meet here
Friday, February 10
Hockey with UMass 7 p.m.
Rifle at Wentworth and Boston College
Saturday, February 11
Basketball with Case Fencing with UConn

Hockey with Wesleyan
Rifle with Dartmouth

— The Editor

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