Fencing squad displays depth, skill, spirit: Varsity, coed teams look to winning seasons

By Rob Sutin

Captains Tom Scudder ’67 and George Carruth ’71 were named to last year’s New England foils championship; Churinoff ’67, who won last year’s New England epee championship; Tom Najarian, 44th at 17:11; and much enthusiasm have been shown in evidence. Tom pointed out that this enthusiasm has shown itself in clear thinking and good strategy rather than in emotional fencing.

There’s good reason for team morale to be high, since the coed squad, captained by Sandy Foote ’67, has been practicing right along with the guys. The girls’ team, consisting of eight coeds, will face Brandeis, Wellesley, Radcliffe, and Boston University.

Captains Scudder’s pre-season optimism is based on the Tech fencing squad, coached by “Maestro” Salvio Vitala. Tom’s optimism is based on the men’s depth in each of the three weapons. Some of the people graduating this year are George Carruth ’71, who won last year’s New England foil titles, and Ron Kozub (4), Jim Yankaskas (33), Keith Wahlin (43), Tom Najarian (50), and John Usher (72).

Kozub figured in the battle for top individual honors but was defeated by three others.

Frosh sports

by Tom Thomas

The MIT fencing cross country team finished a respectable ninth in the New England championships; Captain Jason Foote, captained by Sandy Foote ’67, and Najarian, 44th at 17:11. The top finisher for MIT this season was Sam Obletz. Najarian, 44th at 17:11. The top finisher for MIT this season was Sam Obletz. Najarian, 44th at 17:11.

Other scorers for MIT were Jim Yankaskas, 14th at 16:18; Rich Wahlin, 27th at 16:38; John Usher, 44th at 16:38; and Tom Najarian, 44th at 17:11.

Winter Outlook

The sports season here at MIT is beginning to shift into the winter season. The frosh will field at least seven intercollegiate teams. Practice schedules for all of these teams have begun with an eye toward the opening of their respective seasons in the early days of December.

Basketball coach Artie Singal was greeted by a large group of approximately forty ball players at the official opening of practice. The Tech basketball team has been trimmed down to twenty frosh in whom coach Singal puts his hopes for a winning season. As expected, depth will be Tech’s biggest attribute this season.

Skiing

Bolstered by a goalie with experience and a few Canadians, the Tech hockey team hopes to improve on last year’s 5-7 record. Coach Wayne Peters plans to begin practice as soon as the ice gets sufficiently hard. The Tech hockey team will try to get off on the right foot in their first game December 10. As usual, the frosty grub sports will furnish meat of the finest this winter.

Breaking all precedent, swimming coach David Michael expresses optimism concerning the coming season. He has good reason to hope so. Good swimmers fill all the slots in his lineup. Humor even ha! if the frosty men can beat the varisty. As a prologue to their eleven-meet schedule, the frosh harriers closed out their successful fall season at the LIAC meet in New York Monday, with a fifth place finish out of 18 schools. Over the three mile course at Van Cortland Park in the Bronx, Kozub once again led the harriers with a third place finish. His time of 16:18 was only bettered by Temple’s John Schilling and LaSalle’s Joe Ryan with times of 16:10 and 16:40 respectively.

The Techmen in the high jump will be trying to break their old meet record of 7’0” this winter.

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Organized events will be held in New England on December 10 and 12. The frosh harriers will be competing in the LIAC meet in New York Monday, with a fifth place finish out of 18 schools. Over the three mile course at Van Cortland Park in the Bronx, Kozub once again led the harriers with a third place finish. His time of 16:18 was only bettered by Temple’s John Schilling and LaSalle’s Joe Ryan with times of 16:10 and 16:40 respectively.

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