Ruggers prepare for season

By Don Arkin

The MIT rugby club enjoyed its first taste of contact and competition last Saturday when the always tough Harvard club sent over two full teams for a practice game. Instead of playing a normal game consisting of two halves each lasting 40 minutes, without substitution, the teams agreed to play seven 12-minute quarters with substitutions afterwards.

The players who will represent MIT on the North Carolina tour started the game as a unit and played the first two quarters without substitution. In the third quarter, the forwards were exchanged but the backs stayed in to further their handling practice.

This exhibition of endurance surprised some of the Harvard ruggers who were being exchanged at the end of each quarter and occasionally during breaks in the play. Unfortunately, this surprise did not come early enough to daunt the Crimson scrum as Harvard scored three tries early in the period to take a 9-0 lead.

After these first few minutes of disorder, Tech settled down and scored two tries of their own in the second period while holding Harvard scoreless. It was only in the fourth period when all the substitutions had been made, that the Crimson were able to score their last two tries.

This year's team looks as if it has some good prospects in store. The squad, led by Bob Stowell and Yuri Apsin, is pretty much the same as the one which has provided determined play in the past. The backs have some new faces, most notably that of Bill Thilly, and forwards. Thilly's vigorous tackling was a refreshing sight with much more room in the season.

Tennis prospects are good as team prepares for tour

Contrary to the travails of most of our feathered friends, the tennis team migrates south during the spring-instinctively. Nine ruggers leave Friday on a tour which will show them that the University of North Carolina, Davidson, Old Providence Tennis Club, Wooster College and the Carriage Club of the Carolinas at Georgetown University. The team will be back April 3. This exhibition constitutes spring training for the squad, and is excellent preparation for the upcoming regular season.

Returning lettermen comprise most of the squad. Although the roster is not yet fixed, the players who have shown the most promise are Bob McKeeley '70, Skip Brookfield '69, and a newcomer Steve Cross '71. Right now, prospects look bright for an excellent season.

Practices have been held every day since March 11 on the 'hugel courts' indoors the Armony. With the arrival of the sun and the proportional decrease in the snow, the team has been transplanted outdoors. This week, the players are involved with a set of challenge matches to determine the team's first standings.

After vacation, the team starts its season with a confrontation of Harvard. Later in the year, the engineers will host the New England Tournament on May 10, 11, and 12. The freshmen captain look sharp this point in training. The finish upon their season after vacation.

Lettermen form golf nucleus

By John Light

Rifile squad nears GB crown by winning two point thriller

By Ray Kwansick

The rifle squad is continuing to roll up exciting match scores this season. The marksmen, who are entered in two leagues—the ECAC (with Northeastern and Coast Guard) and the New England League (with Northeastern and Coast Guard) have a good chance to capture the championship in both.

In the Greater Boston circuit, which comprises teams from MIT, Northeastern, Boston University, Boston College, Boston State, Wentworth Institute, and Northeastern University, the engineers have compiled a record of eleven wins and two losses. The only loss of the season came at the hands of Northeastern early in the season.

The meet stationed undefeated in the rest of the season—until last Friday when they traveled in the MIT range to do battle with the engineers. By the end of the day the Tech marksmen had notched a fine sweep and exciting match by a 1316-1314 count. Dick Evans '70 registered the top score of the event with a 270. Tom Steffliger '70 shot 265. Bob Kikkertich '70 chipped in with a 264 while Jack Cheek's 259 and Glenn How '70's 258 rounded out the Tech total.

The win brought the engineers and Northeastern in a dead heat with Boston State and Coast Guard. However, MIT has the upper hand in the determination of the title winner since the champion is decided on the basis of the highest total point count from the same two matches. The lettermen have one match to go against a weak Boston University squad and are in the exact striking distance of the final Husky point total. The BU match will be held after vacation; and unless disaster strikes, the engineers will be home free.

The New England loop is split into three divisions. The league champion is decided through a play-off among the top two teams in each division. As of this point in the season with all the matches counted, the teams who sport a 4-1 mark, are tied for first place with Northeastern and Coast Guard. Since Coast Guard and MIT have the highest season averages, they will be representing the Central Division at the New England meet.

On Saturday, MIT hosted the New England Intercollegiate Sectionals. This match is considered the warm-up to the New England Championships on April 12th, which will also be held at MIT. University of Maine, the perennial favorite, lost a close decision to Norwich University. MIT placed third, only 12 points out of first place. Both Northeastern and Coast Guard finished behind MIT, while Harvard came in a disappointing tenth. Evans was again high man for the team with a 267 and improved his chances for All-New England honors.

So far, the season has been dominated by Evan's, the team's most consistent marksman. He has shot a lowest score of 263 points out of 12. In the team's most consistent outing, the squad shot a 663 total. The rest of the squad is bunched around 255.