SPORTS

B-ball set to open season

By S. Hollinger

MIT's basketball team, hot prospects for a winning year, will begin their season on December 1 at Tufts. Coach John Barry believes there are key requirements which will determine how the season will go: 1) they will need improved play from the experienced forwards, and 2) the answer to the guard question.

All of the front-court men from last year's 11-10 squad are returning but there is a problem. Co-captain and starting forward Bill Godfrey '72 is again having trouble with the foot injured last year, causing him to miss a significant part of the season. He sat on the bench during the scrimmage with Suffolk, but has been back in practice for a week, and probably will be ready to play by the Tufts opener.

Co-captain Hal Brown '72, the other starting forward, has always been strong on offense, and this year Hal has been working on passing and defense. Brown looks to be the team's top scorer, Coach Barry is convinced that center Jerry Hudson '73 will demonstrate the most improvement, assuring the squad of a solid front court attack.

The loss of guards Bruce Wheeler and Gerry Loo through graduation poses the biggest problem for the team this year. However, this varsity is the biggest squad in years and there are many bright candidates for the back court positions. The starters in the two scrimmages played to date have been Minot Cleveland and Ray White '74. Cleveland returned to the squad after a one year absence from the Institute, and is a fine shooter besides being experienced as a guard.

White is Barry's accomplishment: the coach describes him as very coachable and says, "Ray worked himself into the starting guard spot. I believe he'll be able to do the job." Other candidates for the jolt are Walter Stanley '73, Robert Roth '74, and Roger Yeat '72. Stanley will probably stay as much as either White or Cleveland, as he is just as capable, and Roth is described as another fine shooter.

Ball-handling will be the guards most important and most difficult function this season, as the opponents will be aware of our position with experienced forwards and new guards. "Ify" will probably press the guards very closely to attempt to keep the ball away from the forwards.

To date the team has scrimmaged three other squads, beating Babson College and Suffolk University and losing 53-49 to New England powerhouse St. Anselm's College in Manchester, New Hampshire. The scrimmage at St. Anselm's was unique — the spectator area was completely filled and the game was videotaped. MIT played as if it were a scrimmage rather than a regular season game, substituting and not being so psyched up.

Record win for gynsquad

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The Techmen were greeted by a crowd of about 300 at what was Bridgeport's first home meet ever. While they had an easy time with the new team, winning 126.63 to 89.17, it will not be so easy at the next meet. On December 4 they will try to average last year's .1 loss to Boston State.

Graphic

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