Pucksters drop two; Horton nets hat trick

By Rick Henning

The MIT hockey team mounted a scoring rush of four goals in the third period last Friday, but weak defense in the second and third stanzas left them on the short end of a 4-3 decision in a contest on home ice against Lafayette. At times, the Tech defense was sharp, but there were other occasions when the defensemen seemed to have trouble following the puck.

This game started off, as it seems so many others this season have, with a goal from the blue line. The shot seemed to flutter slightly, as it deflected off goalie Mike Schuman and went into the net. Lafayette had several other near misses in the first period and the Engineers showed trouble following the puck. In the second period, Lafayette strengthened their lead to 3-0 with two goals which came only 51 seconds apart. The first came on a centering pass which was converted on a backhand shot by the Lafayette center. The next score came from point blank range as the MIT defense had trouble getting untracked.

In the third period the Tech offense got going, but the defense failed to hold. At 2:06 of the first period, Tom Lydon '73 controlled the draw and passed to Matt Goldsmith who put the puck in the net. A mere 15 seconds later, George Kenney '74 slammed the puck in from in front after a pass from Goldsmith.

Meanwhile, Lafayette also scored twice. The first score came after the defense lost the puck, setting up a partial breakaway. The second came as the puck was centered from behind the net and put in the goal, giving Lafayette a 5-2 lead at 8:18.

At 11:30, John Miller '73 closed the gap to 5-3 on a long shot from near the blue line. The shot stayed several feet above the ice and beat the partially screened goalie. The lead was increased to three again, however, as the defense seemed unable to clear the zone.

Another goal by John Miller at 16:51 from the right point lifted the Engineers total to four, but Tech was unable to mount any more successful attacks.

Jerry Horton '72, 5'10", 155 lb., pictured above attacking the puck, scored a hat trick (three goals in one game) and all of MIT's points in the hockey team's loss to Nichols last Saturday night.

B-ball returns from Florida

During the first two weeks of January, MIT's varsity basketball squad made its second trip to Florida in as many years as they played a four-game schedule against Rollins College, Florida Institute of Technology, Fort Lauderdale University, and Florida Presbyterian. The players took care of their own transportation expenses, and room and board were provided by the host institutions.

The squad started the tour with an 88-67 loss to Rollins on January 9, but bounced back two days later to drop FIT 79-76. On the thirteenth they handed Fort Lauderdale a sixteen-point defeat, 69-53, but completed the trip with a two-point loss to Florida Presbyterian, 69-67.

Harold Brown '72 leads the team in scoring with a 22.4 points-per-game average, followed by Jerry Hudson '73 with 19.1. Hudson is also the team's top rebounder, having snared 116 rebounds in nine games.

In the picture above, taken during Tech's 67-58 win over KPI, Godfrey and Ray White '74 go up for a rebound, as Hudson and Brown (left) look on.