Sports

Crimson sink MIT crews

By David I. Katz

The MIT Heavyweight crew was defeated again on Saturday afternoon by the hands of Harvard this past Saturday. Conditions were almost perfect with flat water and a slight headwind, but the Crimson needed all of its strength and poise to win the first race of the season.

The frosh had two chances to start their race. The first time, one of the Tech coxswains caught a bird while the boat was 35 seconds into the race. Normally, this is too late to stop the race for this type of accident. However, in this instance, the two coxswains involved, Fraser Walsh '74 and Ted Washburn from Harvard, agreed to re-start the race.

The second time, Harvard repeated the first start and jumped out in front after the first 50 strokes. The Crimson boat had a length lead after the first 500 meters and held that margin up to the 1000 meter mark. At this point, Harvard began to pull away again; they gained another length by the 1500 meter mark. At this point, the Tech boat moved up the stroke from 35 to 37 and then to 39, Harvard then brought up their sculls to 37 from the 32 where they had rowed the body. Under the perfect conditions that prevailed, the win was slight for this race, a very fast 6:10.1. The MIT boat was 7.3 seconds behind the Crimson.

The varsity race ran over the same course as the frosh race. The Crimson came in third at a stroke (change from his usual position at 4), the two crews were even. Fraser Walsh's MIT boat was at full 500 meters. At this point, the Crimson eight put together an excellent 500 meters and pulled 5/10 of a length ahead at the Harvard Bridge. With 500 meters left in the race, the Harvard eight sprinted. They pulled away from the MIT eight to end up with a 14 second lead as they won the sprint.

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MIT women's crews show strong effort

Last Saturday was the year's first home race for the MIT women's crew. The novice eight was kicked off with the second four event. In this race, the MIT boat came in third defeating Wellesley (1), Wellesley (2), and Radcliffe (3). The Radcliffe boat won the event, and Syracuse limited second, overthrowing the MIT shell in the last hundred meters.

The second event of the morning was the varsity eights. The MIT team again finished third, only six seconds behind Radcliffe and two seconds in back of UMass. The varsity women had defeated the same UMass boat a week earlier. Middlesex High School, Syracuse, Wellesley, and Wellesley also entered boats in the event.

The MIT first four, consisting of Chris Tracy '76 in the bow, Jane Walter at two, Ingrid Klin '76 at three, Susan Ashworth '75 at stroke, and Debbie Hufn '75 as coxswain was the only MIT boat to win and thus bring home shirts.

The first four showed fine form and power in defeating Syracuse, Wellesley, Middlesex High School, Syracus, and Wellesley also entered boats in the event.

All the crews are looking forward to next week's races at Yale and to the Eastern Championships which will be held in Cambridge on May 13.