Sports

Cagers edge Coast Guard

By Glenn Brownstein

A free throw by Bill Courtright ’76 with two seconds left in the game gave MIT’s basketball team a 67-66 win over Coast Guard at Rockwell Cage Saturday night. The Engineers scored 35 points to the Coast Guard’s 34 to pick up their second straight, having beaten Bowdoin 73-58 Wednesday night, and put MIT’s record at 4-12.

The game, expected to be a fairly even match-up, stayed close all the way. In the first half, MIT scored to dominate for the first ten minutes, building a 24-19 lead with 9:12 remaining. However, Coast Guard quickly turned the game around with a 13-2 burst over a five-minute span with excellent outside shooting from guards Tim Brock and Dan Depper. The teams traded baskets for the last few minutes to leave Coast Guard with a 38-34 halftime lead.

The Engineers opened up well in the second half, tying the score at 40-40. Coast Guard came back with two straight baskets to go up 44-40. The Bears maintained this lead despite the tight Engineer defense and hot shooting of MIT’s leading scorer, Cam Lange ’76, eventually building it to 50-40 with only 5:45 to go.

Fencers win again

Record 7-0 after defeating Brown

The MIT Varsity Fencing team handily put down the young Brown team in a meet held here Saturday; winning 20 bouts.

The foil team record was nearly perfect, winning 8 of their 9 bouts, despite the fact that they were without their number one man, Johanns Ackerman ’77. Ackerman was required to fence sabre in order to allow MIT to field a complete team. Notable performances were given by Rich Reiner ’77 and Tim Haggerty ’77. Reiner had a bout record of 3-0 while Haggerty was 2-1, his loss being a 5-4 decision.

Johanns Ackerman was the bright spot of the Sabre team. Though Ackerman was fencing a weapon he had not prepared for, he won his three bouts. Also winning three bouts in a remarkable performance was freshman Bob Shin. Shin had only three points scored against him in the three bouts.

Five bouts were won by the Epee team with Mark Hookman ’75 the only one to open in a 3-0 bout record.

Coach Silvio N. Vitalio and Assistant Eric T. Sollee are pleased with the team’s performance at this point in the season but are looking in anticipation to future competitions. Most notably the team’s second meet against Harvard at Harvard on February 12. MIT beat Harvard in the first meet, but Harvard is promising even tougher competition in the second go-around.

The Engineers called a timeout to regroup, and scored three unanswered baskets upon their return to the court to even the score with six minutes left. At 5:39, Deputy hit a 20-foot jumper to put the Engineers ahead again, and Brock widened the lead to 64-60 on a ten-footer thirty seconds later. But Lange and co-captain Bob Roth ’74 hit long outside shots to tie the score again within a minute.

Both teams failed to score again until Peter Jackson ’76 hit one of two free throws with 1:59 remaining. Coast Guard went ahead for the last time on their next possession after Deputy 20-footer, but foiled co-captain Al Epstein ’75 with a minute left, Epstein then sank one of two foul shots to even the score again at 66 apiece.

After a timeout, Coast Guard tried to hold the ball for a last shot, but Joel Hendrix was found guilty of holding the ball too long with 37 seconds left. On the ensuing jump ball, Lange won the tap and MIT took their final time-out.

MIT tried to work the ball inside for a lay-up or foul on their final possession, but had to settle for a Lange 15-footer attempt with six seconds left. The shot hit the front rim and was pulled down by Courtright, stymied underneath. He went up for the follow shot with two seconds left, and missed, but was fouled by Hendrix Courtright then tossed in the first free throw to put MIT ahead, 67-66, but missed the second. Coast Guard got the rebound and at the buzzer Brock heaved a 70-footer that was way off the mark.

Deputy led all scorers with 30 points, mainly on long jumpers from 15 feet out or further. Lange led the Engineers with 21 points and 11 rebounds, while Courtright and Jackson added 14 and 11 points, respectively. Epstein continued to be the key passer on the club, picking up assists.

MIT now journeys to Amherst, Chicago State, Carnegie-Mellon, Maine, and Middlebury before returning home February 26th for a game against Suffolk at 8:15.

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