Tech volleyball tourney termed a huge success

Last weekend MIT was the host of the first MIT Invitational Volleyball Tournament. Seventeen teams from New England and England area competed in two separate divisions. In the A division, won by Woonsocket YMCA, included teams from Providence, New Haven, Harvard University and Cambridge. The CFC, CCBI and Woonsocket CIB Volleyball Club B team, included teams from Hinsboro Air Force Base, Chandler and MIT. The MIT Volleyball Club, playing only its second tournament, made a respectable showing in its division tying for third place.

This tournament marked the introduction of serious volleyball to the MIT community. Spectators were treated to a highly competitive round robin session during the day, and well played finals in the evening. The finals featured Woonsocket, 6-2 during the day, and Cambridge, 5-3, in a best of 3 playoff for first place in the A division. The Cambridge Volleyball Club has several MIT members, including Robert Keemer '75, squash coach Michael White and graduate student David Castanon and Randy Richardson.

In the first playoff game, Woonsocket's spirited defense owned Cambridge's impressive offensive in a closely contested 15-11 game. The spectators enjoyed the many fine defensive plays by both teams in a game that saw the last change hands repeatedly. The second game was a close one, the final score marked by good defensive play. Cambridge, having just played five consecutive games, showed signs of tiring, Woonsocket pulled away from a 10-10 tie to win 15-11 in another lengthy contest. The crowd were treated to the highly skilled competition, originally thought to be focused only on the West Coast and foreign countries.

A good portion of the success of the tournament was due to the smooth administration provided by President Richard Morgan '75, treasurer Francisco Gutierrez '76, and David Castanon, with the cooperation of the MIT Athletic Department.

The MIT Invitational Volleyball Club was formed last fall during the Intramural volleyball season, when sufficient numbers showed interest in playing at an advanced level of competition. Shortly afterwards, the club became a member of the New England Region of the United States Volleyball Association. During IAP, the team, which included weekly practices, coached by members of the Cambridge YMCA Club, at the University. As neither of play improved, the club switched teams from Harvard, Woonsocket and Cambridge, winning most of their games.

The club now has two playing teams: an undergraduate team and a community team. The undergraduate team will play with other teams in the area, while the community team will continue to play in USVBA tournaments. The first scheduled undergraduate match is on Feb 2 at Westwood, the team will also play in the New England College-gate tournament on March 16. The club hopes to make Volleyball a varsity sport in the future, although its primary aim at the moment is playing as a club team. Several clubs have been invited to form a neat team of 3 men and 3 women will be formed to play against Radcliffe and Harvard. Among other future activities, the club plans to organize a two-man team tournament in the near future, and a program for instruction of new members.

Wrestlers beat Williams as Hanley wins again

The MIT wrestling team defeated Williams 35-14 in a dual meet held at Williams last Saturday. This was the second time this year that the men have wrestled Williams, having won the earlier meet 28-9.

The Williams team had been optimistic about upsetting the MIT team, Williams' recent victories over teams which MIT had wrestled previously had given them the impression that they would be able to beat the Tech team.

The matches of Co-Captain Rich Hartman '74 and Peter Haag '74 were typical of the meet. Hartman, who was a runner up in the New Englands last year, had lost a close decision against the defending New England champion in the earlier meet. However that was the team's first meet during IAP, and the 35 pounds that Hartman needed to lose in order to "make weight" had left him depleted. Now wrestling in the 150 pound class, Hartman was at full strength.

At the beginning of the match, the Williams wrestler was very aggressive, scoring a take down at the end of the first period to lead 2-0. During the remaining periods the Williams wrestler melted away, as Hartman powered his way to a 6-3 decision.

In the 190 pound weight class, Don Smith '75, a Freshman, was defeated by a Williams wrestler for the first two periods of their match. But the MIT team's superior endurance showed during the third period, as Haag easily dominated his opponent, scoring two near falls before pinning in 6:39.

Other bouts included Jack Niswanger '75 scoring a 14-14 decision for MIT, Werner Haag '77 receiving a forfeit, and Co-Captain Ed "The Cobra" Hanley stretching his record to 17 consecutive wins this season. Joe Scior '77 lost to Williams' New England champion. During the first period of his bout, John Than '77 was having a rough time with Williams' 158 pound wrestler. But after his opponent was slowed by injuries, Than was able to pull out a 15-8 victory.

The wrestling team will end its dual meet season with an expected win over Dartmouth. Last year the wrestling team faced Dartmouth in Connecticut 36-3. The match will begin at 7:30 in the DePauw Wrestling Room.

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