Beavers reject ECAC bid

By Lawrence D. David

The 10th day of the season, memorial to the Beaver baseball team became the first in MIT history to receive an offer to compete in the Eastern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and celebrate the occasion with a come-from-behind victory over Bowdoin.

However, the Beavers now find themselves in the position of regretting the offer the grounds that the teams invited to the ECAC tournament were teams that MIT had already defeated; nothing could be gained by going in as a replacement. In addition, the ECAC tournament is primarily exclusive of the NCAA teams, and a poor showing in the ECAC would almost certainly preclude a bid to the NCAA regionals.

Coach Fred O'Brien complimented the courage of the MIT squad in turning down the invitation even though it was the first such honor in the team’s history. The Beavers now must look towards the future to find out if they will travel to C.W. Post College on Long Island, in the regional next week or whether they will head home for the summer vacation.

In the Bowdoin game, the Beavers showed their true form in the season, fielded excellently and held a 2-0 lead after 5 1/2 innings. In the last two innings, the Beavers scored twice on three walks, a hit batter, and an RBI single by Bob Chaurasia ’76 to tie the contest.

Bowdoin pulled ahead again in the seventh when right fielder Roy Henriksen ’76 overthrew the runner after a fly out, the throw hitting the hard infield and bouncing over the fence, setting up a tie at third base line, allowing a Bowdoin runner to score from one base.

In the MIT eighth, two-out singles by Kevin Rowland and Dave Irwin ’74 brought in the tying and winning runs for the Bears.

Mike Royal ’76 worked out of a ninth-inning jam to pick up his third save, raising his record to 6-2 and tied the record for most victories by an MIT pitcher in one season.

In compiling the best mark in MIT baseball history, the Beavers defeated two Division I teams, Boston College and Northeastern, by respective scores of 10-9 and 9-5. The Beavers also overcame a four-game losing streak late in the season to win their last three games from Harvard and Bowdoin.

Four of MIT’s losses were to the Division I teams of Harvard and Brandeis, as well as a tight 2-1 loss early in the year to Eckerd College, an excellent NCAA college team in the nation.

Tennis team places 5th in New England tourney

By Ken Davis

The men’s team completed its 1974 campaign with a strong fifth place finish at the New England championship tournament.

Although William Young ’74 and Lee Simpson ’75 failed to defend their Class A singles and doubles titles, respectively, the overall team effort enabled MIT to finish behind only Harvard, Brown, tournament host Dartmouth, and Williams.

Further individual performances were turned in by Wally Shjeflo ’74, who defeated the fifth seeded player in the A singles, and George Zouros ’76, who defeated a top-seeded player in the B doubles match.

The 1975 season will begin with the intercollegiate championships at Dartmouth by a 5-4 score in the tiebreaker of the third set. The score of the match was 5-6, 6-3, 6-4.

The doubles team of Young and Simpson also advanced to the semifinals before losing to MIT’s first-place duo, Bob Tesser and Chuck Johnson ’75, 4-6, 6-3, 6-1.

Young, who was MIT’s top seed and played eight matches in the tournament after the opening round due to illness, advanced to the final of the tournament by a 6-1, 6-0, 6-0 score.

In the semifinals, Young defeated second singles champion, 1-6, 6-1, 6-2, and beat the number one seed, 6-1, 6-0.

Young’s opponent was John Ingard of Harvard, against whom Young split two matches during the season. Sunday was to be Ingard’s day; the rain and slow clay courts were much less detrimental to his style of play than Young’s, and he won, 6-3, 6-7, 6-3. Ingard went on to win the tournament over Crimson teammate John Pearson, 6-4, 6-2.

The doubles team of Young and Simpson also advanced to the semifinals before losing to Bob Tesser and Chuck Johnson, 6-4, 6-2.

Dave Tichell ’76 was the Beavers’ pitching leader with an ERA of 3.10, while Kevin Rowland led the team in RBIs with 21. Young, Rowland, and Livingwell had 11 home runs with a 6-2 record and a strong ERA of 3.10.

The regular season is over, but all New Yorkers (and any other New Englander, for that matter) are urged to root the Beavers on in the upcoming post-season tourney.

Springfield captures Easterns

By Dave Dobos

Springfield College, scoring in 11 of 19 events, captured the 53rd Eastern Intercollegiate Athletic Association outdoor track championships, defeating MIT last weekend.

Young, the second-place scorer, was good enough for the school’s third straight title. Runner-up was Harvard with 79 points, followed by Brandeis, with 37 points. Brandeis, with three athletes, got to the semi-finals before losing to the same team, Dartmouth, 10-7, in a ten round.

The freshmen were fifth, too. We were diverse and complimentary, and we made each other complete through the pain and the trial and the awful power of the race. We might express this feeling, Mitch Green ’75, of our coxswain, understand: "We are a team, and the intense communication that develops between people who know what they’re doing and do it well, is the bond which we sense.

Henry Heck ’75 knows: ‘Be fore we get too wonder why the hell you’re out there, and during the race, you can’t stand the agony. And after a race, it will pass, ‘you hate yourself for not pulling harder.”

In the final race of the Eastern Sprint Championships, we knew we’d have to pull to win. And we rowed our best race. We were the strongest, tightest, most intensely hungered-for race, and at the finish line in a state of collapse.

We were third, and everyone knew we’d done our best. This is what we came away with, the thing that will be with us long after our fleeting strength is gone.

The JV did the same, pushing themselves past the limits of endurance. They had to face the 440-yard relay race before a couple of false starts, and many crevets performed better than any team in the nation.

Coaches Bill Miller and John MacKenty will rest on the season, none of which were performed with the same enthusiasm.

Next year, the freshmen have the chance to make a name for themselves, and to earn a varsity place for 700 meters, but finally came in fifth.

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