The Head of the Charles — 1974

By David I. Katz

With second place finishes in the Elite Fours and Lightweight Eights competitions, and a fifth in the Elite Eights, MIT placed an admirable second overall in the 1974 Head of the Charles Regatta. First place was captured for the third year in a row by Harvard, while Princeton edged out Yale for third.

The overall winner of the Head is determined by a formula, which takes into account the number of entries in each event, the finishing place in the event, the number of entries from the same organization, and the points assigned to each event.

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The MIT Elite Four entry (bow-Peter Beaman ’76, 2-John Everett ’76, 3-Jim Gorman ’75, stroke-Gary Piantedosi ’76, and cox-Mike Newman ’76) gained the dubious honor of having the closest second place of the year as they were only half a second out of first. Again, the winner was Harvard. MIT’s women’s varsity finished seventh in spite of losing approximately 20 seconds in a collision while passing the boat in front of them.

So, while failing to win an event, the Engineer oarsmen performed very well overall, foreshadowing a fine spring season of racing at MIT.