Basketball has promising 2-1 week

By Glenn Brownstein

Men's work and discipline are two things needed to produce a winning basketball team. After showing only small flashes of either attribute in December, MIT's varsity basketball team has gotten down to business. Two wins and a loss last week pushed the team's record to 3-5, and the possibility of a winning season gets better and better.

Last Thursday night, MIT had a rare breather, routing NJIT, 93-63. A 3-4 burst in the final nine minutes of the first half was the key to the easy win.

For the first time this year, all members of the MIT squad saw considerable playing time. Peter Jackson '76 and Cam Lange '76 led MIT with 19 and 14 points, respectively. Although MIT was badly out-matched against major college Northeastern Friday night, the Engineers played some of their best basketball of the season, losing only 92-74 to the far superior Huskies.

NU opened up a 1-3 lead in the first seven minutes, but could not strengthen it for another ten, as MIT followed it with a deliberate, patient offense. A late burst near halftime gave the Huskies a 45-29 lead after twenty minutes.

In the second half, with the game practically out of reach, Coach Fran O'Brien advised his squad to forget the score and just play the game, and armed with that strategy, MIT kept the game fairly close the rest of the way, cutting NU's lead to eleven on many occasions, and finally losing by 18.

Lange led MIT with 24 points, nine rebounds, and six assists, while Jackson added 17 points and eight boards. John Doyle '76 posted 14 points and passed off for six more baskets.

In the past two years, MIT has seemed to have an uncanny ability to give away wins in the final minutes Tuesday night against Lowell, the Engineers went the other way, scoring six straight points in the last 10.7 of regulation time to tie the game, then ousting Lowell 74-71 in overtime to gain a very satisfying 80-67 victory.

MIT played a lackluster game for thirty-five minutes, coming to life in the final five in turning a 59-61 deficit into a 68-63 deadlock. Key plays in the comeback were four MIT steals in the final four minutes, one on an inexplicable full-court pass by Lowell with less than a second left. Lange hit the tying jumper with nine seconds remaining, and the Engineers totally dominated the succeeding extra period.

Jackson had 25 points and 20 rebounds to lead both teams, and John Cavolowitz '76 added 18 points, but the real MIT heroes were guard replacements Tom Reiman '79 and Peter Maimonis '77, who forced late turnovers and pulled down some key rebounds.

Lange's 53-point week pushed him within 14 points of the career scoring record held by Harold Brown '72 of 1,466 points. Lange will make his bid for the record and MIT will shoot for its fourth win in five games against Trinity in the Cage tomorrow at 8:15 pm.

One of the keys to MIT's recent basketball success has been Senior Peter Jackson, shown here against Haverford. The 6'3" forward from St. Louis leads the team in both scoring and rebounding after 8 games.

Spring term 1976
Cross-registration at Wellesley College

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