Fencers fourth in NEs

By Jeannette Wing

(Juniorine Wing ‘78 is a member of the MIT women’s varsity fencing team.)

The MIT women’s fencing team ended its season with some of the best performances in the team’s history last Sunday at Holy Cross, in the New England Women’s Intercollegiate Fencing Association (NEWIFA) Team championships. Three MIT teams entered, one each at the varsity, junior varsity, and beginners levels, all fencing well.

The varsity squad — Angela Chaney ‘76, Judy Austin ‘77, and Jeannette Wing ‘78 — displayed remarkable improvement over last year by placing fourth out of fourteen teams. (Last year they placed sixth out of fewer teams.) After losing the first two matches to Brown and Dartmouth, the momentum of the fencing finally picked up and the varsity team surged ahead to win nine of the next eleven matches. Austin fenced the most consistently of the three, beating nine of her thirteen opponents. Wing won seven bouts and nine of her thirteen opponents. Consistently of the three, beating every of the best performances in the year they placed sixth out of eleven teams, moving up in rank by two over last year, a significant jump. Prettyman fenced superbly, winning eight out of ten bouts; Nelson impressed the team with seven victories and Williams contributed five strong wins.

After the team championships, six girls from each level who had won enough bouts during the team matches fenced to determine the rank of the individual fencers. Kaufman entered at the junior varsity level and Prettyman at the beginners level. Prettyman’s victory in this class was a first for the MIT women’s fencing team.

Ski ends injury-filled year

By Peter Horowitz

(Peter Horowitz ‘76 is a member of MIT’s varsity skiing team.)

The MIT ski team had its best performance of the year at the Division II championships. The MIT ski team had its best performance of the year at the Division II championships. Skiing finally picked up and the momentum of the team with seven victories and ten bouts; both Boice and Ng beat fifth. Kaufman proved her skill and supported by Boice ‘78 and Liz Ng ‘79, the team topped the competition.

The beginners’ squad of Michelle Prettyman ’79, Sue Nelson ’77, and Martha Williams ’79 placed fourth out of eleven schools, moving up in rank by two over last year, a significant jump. Prettyman fenced superbly, winning eight out of ten bouts; Nelson impressed the team with seven victories and Williams contributed five strong wins.

High points in the meet for MIT were a 7th place finish in the giant slalom (11th place) and in the cross-country (17th place) was disqualified in the slalom, which is usually his best event. Tom Stevens ‘79 led MIT in the slalom with a 24th place, and was 22nd in the jumping. Colin Maynard ‘79 placed 26th in the cross-country.

The prospects for next year are much better as the team will only be losing co-captain Debbie Stein ‘78, who was unable to ski due to injuries and sickness still showed.

The MIT ski team had its best performance of the year at the Division II championships.