John Everett '76 rowed in the encouraging, MIT sent two
Joel Bradley heads for the grass to avoid a pile-up on the first lap. Car #18 (sideways above the 'MIT on
number seven spot in the US Olympic Games in Montreal, as
members of its varsity
during the past year.
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sity of Southern California, or
moth 340-pound wrestler Erland
intercollegiate pistol champion
pic participants in many years.
Piantedosi’s boat won its
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to Princeton in the annual
The wommen’s sailing team, aim-
Holland, who was quoted
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misfire at high speed, which drop-
ped the car into 18th position on
in preparation for the race Sun-
day, team members Bob

Sports: the year in review
By Glenn Brownstein
It’s not the same as the University of Southern California, or Penn State, or even Northeastern, but MIT’s varied intercollegiate athletic program and its 1800-plus varsity athletes had an ample share of successes (and failures) during the past year.

Most recent and perhaps most encouraging, MIT sent two members of its varsity heavyweight crew team to the Olympic Games in Montreal, at
John Everett ’76 rowed in the number seven spot in the US.
us longboat, and Gary Planteurod ‘76 filled a seat in the coxless four shell. Although neither crew made the finals (the eights’ ninth-place finish was their worst ever), Planteurod’s boat was its preliminary heat, and the two oarsmen were MIT’s first Olympic participants in many years.

Other Olympic hopefuls, includ-
ing riflemen Jerry Daumair ’76 and Alan Marcure ’78, world intercollegiate pistol champion Steve Goldaten ’76, and mammoth 340-pound wrestler Erland
van Lith de Jeude ’76 all missed out on a trip to Montreal. The Engineer shooters suffered from a lack of funds, preventing them from making a trip to Arizona for the trials, while van Lith de Jeude was simply outwrestled in his bid to make the US Greco-Roman wrestling squad. The heavyweight crew team, crippled by the loss of the Olympic rowers and Will Sawyer ’76, who took a term off, surprised all observers, including Coach Peter Holland, with a fifth-place finish in the Intercollegiate Rowing Association championships in Syracuse in early June.

Holland, who was quoted before the competition as simply wanting to beat a couple of crews in the petite finals (seventh through twelfth places), gained some measure of consolation for the disastrous regular season in which MIT defeated only last-ranked Columbus.

The women’s sailing team, aiming for a national championship, fell just short of its goal, finishing second to Princeton in the annual regatta, held at MIT for the first time ever during Memorial Day week.

The squad, whose New England championship earned them a place in the nationals, was led by the third place B-Division finish of Debra Meyerson ’79 with Audrey Greenhill ’79 crewing. A-Division skipper Barbara Belt ’77 with Sally Huested ’78 (Please turn to page 15)

By David Schaller
The MIT Racing Team made its entry into professional racing Sunday at the 4.0-mile-long Road America race track in Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin. After several years of championship racing in the Sports Car Club of America’s (SCCA) amateur classes the MIT team obtained sponsorship from Volkswagen of Brookline and began preparing a 1976 Volkswagen Scirocco for the Scirocco Cup Series.

No major modifications were required since the rules of the series require all the cars to be Volkswagen Sciroccos in showroom condition. The only changes allowed in the series are the addition of an open exhaust, aftermarket shock absorbers, and Goodyear street radial tires.

After arriving at the track on Friday morning, the MIT Team checked over the car for the first practice session. During the first practice session driver Joel Bradley found his tire pressure was several pounds too high, but managed to turn in the ninth fastest time. On Saturday during qualifying the engine developed a misfire at high speed, which dropped the car into 18th position on the 20-car grid.

In preparation for the race Sunday, team members Bob Humphrey ’77, Dusty Nool ’76, and David Schaller ’78 replaced the entire electrical system and tuned the engine in an attempt to eliminate the misfire. To ensure top performance the brakes were bled, new brake shoes were instal-
led, and the wheel alignment was checked.

As the start of the race Bradley quickly passed three cars by the second turn. As he came toward turn five, a group of cars lined up in front of him started spinning, and to avoid the cars Bradley went wide onto the grass on the corner. However, there wasn’t enough room, and he got hit by the back of one of the other cars. The crash locked bumpers, and it took 40 seconds for Bradley to get free and back on the track. The rest of the pack had long since disep-
pared, but the MIT racer took off in pursuit, and despite the return of the misfire caught several cars, finishing 14th at the end.

The MIT/Brookline VW Racing Team will be traveling to Ohio and Minnesota for races on the 8th and 15th of August, and will be at Lime Rock, Ct. for the Labor Day Nationals September 3rd. After that race the car will be prepared for the Car and Driver Challenge V, again at Lime Rock October 16th.

US Olympic oarsmen Gary Pianutedosi ’76 (third from left) and John Everett ’76 (center)