Golfers bump BC and Bentley

By Leo Bonnell

(Leo Bonnell '77 is a member of the golf team.)

With perhaps its most impressive team effort in recent years, the varsity golf team defeated two very strong teams from Boston College and Bentley by scores of 5-2 and 4-3. The twin victories finished the Engineers' fall match season with an excellent five and two record.

No less than four of the seven matches ended in ties after the regulation 18 holes of play, so the Engineers, who had already lost two of three concluded matches, were faced with the difficult task of winning three of the four sudden-death playoffs to attain an overall victory. Play-off participants were Bob Kneeland '77, Mark Swenson '78, Mike Varrell '77, and Doug Wegner '79. Both Kneeland and Swenson had come from behind by winning the 18th hole to force the play-offs. The Bentley match had already been decided at that point, as was Kneeland's. Jim Dornbusch '78, Leo Bonnell '77, and Doug Wegner '79 had clinched the win for MIT.

Meanwhile, the play-offs were underway, as a cloudy dusk would soon be coming to the Sud- dle Hill GC course. Two of the four matches were over after only one extra hole, as both Varrell and Kneeland scored par five on the long first hole to win their respective play-offs.

Both Hughes and Swenson could manage only ties with their opponents on the first two extra holes, as each held winning opportunities slip through his fingers. Swenson hit a tremendous drive, and iron shot on the first to reach the green in two, got down in two for a birdie, yet could not win as his opponent sank a long putt for his own birdie. Hughes reached the par four second with the pin, yet took three more on the green for a bogey and another tie hole.

Both players came through, however, on the third extra hole — a long par three with a large water hazard, trees, and other trouble near the green. Hughes and Swenson carefully avoided the perilous hazard, but their opponents could not, as both the holes and the match were won by the Engineers.

Despite these heroics, the number one star of last Wednesday had to be Kneeland, who shot a fine 79, won both of his matches, and seems to have returned to top form. Other excellent scores were another 79, by Wegner (who has played consistently well since being called up from the JV Squad), an 80 by Dornbusch, and 81's by Swenson and Hughes. In fact, play was so uniformly good that Coach Barry will have difficulty selecting the five-man squad for the New England Championships next Monday and Tuesday.

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