By Glenn Browstein

Way the MIT men's basketball record is 3-5 and not 5-4 in their last three games, the Beavers have played only three halves of sound basketball. Sound simple? Here are the simple facts: an 81-72 victory over New Jersey, and a Jekyll-Hyde 64-49 defeat by Wesleyan.

Against Lowell last Thursday, MIT appeared to have suffered no effects from its long Florida trip, completed just the day before. The Beavers led by a point heading into the opening tap to the final buzzer in regaining their third win of the season. Lowell's usually potent attack was almost completely shut off by the tenacious MIT defense, with only Walt Makiej (29 points) and Steve Oliver (17 points) breaking into double digits for the Chiefs.

The Beavers' scoring was much more balanced, with freshman center Ray Nagem leading the Chiefs' points. Tom Berman '79 tallied 26, and guards Peter Maimonis '78 and Peter Maimonis '77 added 15 each. Maimonis also set a personal record in accumulating 14 assists.

Just short of Al Epstein's 1974 mark of 16. Demonstrating once again that an untried basketball team will have to struggle winless regardless of the opposition, MIT dropped a 53-50 decision to a weak New Jersey Tech squad Saturday night. Although the Beavers had demolished the Engineers the year before, there were no such heroes this time. Trailing 26-25 at halftime, MIT nonetheless played ten solid minutes at the beginning of the second half and opened up a 43-33 lead. After that, though, the prelims took over as MIT lost its momentum edge and handed the game back to New Jersey, seemingly somewhat reluctant to win the game, but doing so anyway.

Maimonis led all scorers with 21 points; and Nagem bashed down 12 rebounds, but New Jersey's far fewer offensive rebounds Grubbs did it all for the Engineers, scoring 18 points, and garnering ten rebounds. New Jersey outshot MIT 33 to 31 percent in the game, statistically.

For nearly thirty minutes Tuesday night, MIT played its best defensive game of the season, containing locally the Wesleyan's offensive efforts in the first half, and 42-20 lead. Then the roof fell in. Wesleyan ran off ten consecutive points, MIT's John Cavlovsky '77 scored a three-point play, Wesleyan scored ten more, Nagem hit a layup, Wesleyan tallied seven consecutive points, Cavlovsky hit a jumper, and Wesleyan converted eight free throws to wrap up the scoring. In short, a 35-17 first half, a 35-17 point turn that turned a 64-49 defeat into a 64-49 defeat. The key to the injury turn of fortune for the Beavers appeared to be the foul difficulties of Nagem, who had played outstanding defense against the top Wesleyan scorer, Steve Malinowski, but had picked up his fourth personal with 11:56 left in the game and sat out the remaining minutes during which Wesleyan outscored MIT. 11:2. Nagem returned to play for another four minutes before fouling out, but the momentum had shifted and MIT was swept up by the Cardinals as they handed the Beavers a bitter sixth defeat. At the same time, David Phillips led Wesleyan scorers with 19 points, while Cavlovsky topped the stunned MIT squad with seven markers.

The Beavers will attempt to reverse their two-game skid tomorrow night at 8:15pm against a talented Bowdoin squad which features high-scoring guard Gregg Franul and strong center Jim Small. MIT then travels to Tufts to renew a traditional rivalry Monday evening.

Beaver guard Tom Berman '79 maneuvers under the backboard in the varsity basketball team's Saturday loss to New Jersey Tech.

By Dave Dobos

The MIT indoor track team opened its AIAW competition with a lackluster 64-49 victory over Williams at the western Massachusetts school last Saturday. The thinclads remain undefeated at 5-0.

Although the field events provided a substantial 24 point lead, the runners, outdistanced by Williams 34-25, were plagued with annecting performances and handicapped by the absence of both co-captains, injured Joe Edner (77) and Bruce Radford '77, who was taking his veterinary boards.

There were, however, some noteworthy Beaver race victories. Sophomore Jim Durley, filling in for Edner, edged his Williams foe by a half second. Senior Rick O'connor did his second straight double win, captaining the hurdles and the dash for a total of ten points.

Taking five of six events, the field event competitors bullied a 39-15 advantage. Reid von Bombsch '78 shattered the MIT varis high jump record with his leap of 6'11". The tall, lean frame of the 6'11"er, who is the Easterns outdoor champ, bettered the old 6'9" record set by Walt Gibbons '74 in 1971.

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