Smith gets Easter foil title

By Brian Wiseman

Taking only four points to the final round, MIT fencer Mark Smith '78 took the Eastern Foil Championship, Friday and Saturday at Connecticut College in New London.

This was the finishing touch of a tremendous effort by the foil squad to give MIT its third Eastern Foil Team Championship (MIT won championships in 1974 and 1975), an attempt that fell short by one point in 1976. Smith and Rich Reimer '77 qualified for the finals by posting ten victories in the preliminary fencing. Senior captain Artie Smith '77, who has seven bouts but failed to qualify.

The squad was pressing for the championship from the very beginning. At the end of a grueling 10 rounds, MIT was one point behind Princeton, with three tough opponents to go, while Uconn had easier opponents. MIT swept all three of the next two rounds, including Reimer's exciting comeback from an 0-4 deficit for a 5-4 win, but Uconn held up with them. In the final round, Uconn dropped their second bout to Princeton, giving the Tech squad a chance to catch up. However, the Harvard squad proved a bit too much for them as Creswell took the third bout, giving Uconn the foil crown.

In the finals on Saturday, Smith went undeafeated, while Reimer was unable to duplicate the previous day's success, and fell to a tough eight out of nine finalists. Smith won the individual crown, and was also awarded the Cosse award for the best sportsmanship fencer.

The other two weapons did not fare well, both ending up twelfth out of 12 schools in the competition. Particularly noteworthy were the efforts of Bob Shin '77 in sabre, who took fourth, and John Rodrigues '80 in epee.

PE requirements and lack of motivation

By Gary S. Engelson

To get a Physical Education (PE) course, requirements would probably overload what is already a heavily enrolled program. They would also have a tendency to discourage people who have an aversion to regulation. Some people are getting exercise by taking PE even when not required. People on taking PE courses that according to an article in The Tech of Sept. 23, 1975, "the athletic department is having difficulty accommodating all the people who want to take PE." Requiring students to take PE then they know what physical education means.

There are places where the student is required to take a certain number of PE courses. There are people who are not getting exercise, and have other classes. The students should not be given this opportunity to exercise, to make fun, and get exercise if they are interested.

The students certainly need the exercise, so how can we create a program that is not so severe? Non-athletes must be convinced that they do not have to be the world's finest athlete to have a great time and get in shape. Students who are the PE classes should have their biggest impact.

Their goals should be to make sports as much fun as possible, to make sports a habit with everyone, and to keep the extremely high resources of competition off of new participants, so that they are not discouraged. The experience, which the course bulletin cites as the program's goal, is very important. At least one option open to students now is that the PE course is not the big thing. The PE classes should have their biggest impact.

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Pistol wins sectional

By Gary S. Engelson

The varsity pistol team went down to the firing range this weekend and came back with the New England sectional title. MIT had no trouble with its easier opponents this year.

The MIT Red team of Captain Dave Schaller '78, Philip Morris '78, Dennis McMullen '78, and David Miller '79 took first place honors in the Conventional and International style shooting. Since International shooting calls for three-man teams, Miller only shot in the Conventional competition. The Red team scored a team total of 1141 out of a possible 1200 in the Conventional match and swept past USCIGA's second place score of 2251 in the International competition to check in with a score of 3264.

The team did exceedingly well in the individual competition also, taking first and second in both styles of shooting. Morris scored a first in Conventional and McMullen was the leader in International. Schaller held the second position in both contests by a single point, dipping by a single point from WPI and USCIGA to do it. In the International style Schaller also took first place with the standard pistol, while McMullen took first in the free pistol competition.

The surprise of the weekend was the winner of the Air Pistol competition, Kyle Brown '80. He surprised himself and his competitors with his score of 361 out of 400.

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