sports

Stickmen finally stem the tide of ‘almosts’

By Clive Brownstein

For all its successes, the 1977 season of MIT lacrosse has been one of almosts.

There was an 8-7 loss to Amherst after a comeback from a 5-2 deficit, a 9-8 loss to Bowdoin after a superb performance by O'Connor during the first half of the game’s turning points came down to one goal.

Phil McNally 79 bounced one in with a minute left in the first quarter, and MIT then broke the game wide open with five scores in the next period.

Springfield, boasting a talented attack, still had a shot at the win when Eric Poesicker scored during the third period, but McNally took a pass from co-captain Roger Renshaw ’77 and pumped one past O’Connor just 33 seconds after Poesicker’s goal to break the Indians’ back.

In a day of so many excellent performances, two stood out: the six-goal effort of O’Connor, and the 20-save, five-goal performance of MIT goalie Jeff Singer ’77, who had his best day in the net all season.

Tennis game of the century

By Steve Kibbey

"It will reverberate throughout the economics profession into the central banks of the world. . . . I wouldn’t be so proud of governments didn’t hop on this account. People have been backing on Tobin — I use the word ‘banking’ advisedly — as new currencies will topple, deflations will occur. . . . It really, once the big things of time,“

That’s how Institute Professor Robert M. Solow described Paul Samuelson’s tremendous 6-4 victory over James Tobin of Yale University in the first of May in an international tennis tournament.

The tournament, named for the distinguished Yale economist who failed to predict the stock market crash of 1929, brought the J.B. Carr Indoor Tennis Courts all the great tennis pros and tennis rivals: Institute Professor and Nobel laureate Paul Samuelson and Professor Jerry Hausman, Professors Jerry Greenberg, John Pratt, and Michael Spence of Harvard, and Professor Eugene Fama of the University Chicago Business School. All met, of course, were two of the world’s leading economists and tennis rivals: Institute Professor and Nobel laureate Paul Samuelson and Professor Jerry Hausman.

Solow, referee for the two-hour battle of the giants, said: "The tournament was held because you get a little stir crazy around the first of May in a university like this and you gotta do something.

The intellectual quality of the matches had been hard to believe. It was just so fantastic. A real consolation could be the conclusion that Modigliani, for instance, . . . Perhaps he didn’t realize that Modigliani kept his mouth shut for one whole set. This has never before happened. Never! Never! It’s a first. It is absolutely a first. It almost will make the front page of The New York Times."

If it hadn’t been for a small accident, it would have made the first page. It almost save percentage best in his career, and it has to be considered for the North-South Game, lacrosse’s college all-star classic, to be held in Baltimore June 11.

MIT meets Westfield State in Westfield Wednesday before returning home for the season finale against Branden Saturday at 2pm. Branden, while playing a relatively innocuous schedule has a 3-3 record and senior goal

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