Cagers bomb Connecticut

By Michael Tafoya

"We expect to win," said head coach Francis O'Brien just before MIT took on Connecticut College last Saturday afternoon at Rockwell Cage. Coach O'Brien's words proved prophetic as the Engineers proceeded to win 60-30. Although MIT has not had a particularly good season so far, with their record standing at 5-3, they played a good, exciting game of basketball on Saturday. The game started out slowly without either team really taking strong leads. By the end of the first half, Connecticut College was leading 23-21.

For MIT the half was characterized by good defense. They were also getting inside with ease. When the two teams came out for the second half, things were completely different. Under Coach O'Brien, the MIT team was playing a fairly easy going game. Suddenly, the two teams stepped up their attack. The theme of the second half was aggressiveness. Both teams were continually on the go, always driving in for the other's basket. It was nip and tuck for most of the half, with both teams trading baskets all the way through. MIT held a two point lead as the game entered the final two minutes. The pressure was on, but the engineers came to the occasion. They grabbed another basket, then made three free throws to put them seven points in the lead. Connecticut just seemed to come apart. The game ended with MIT winning by 11 points.

The two top point-getters for MIT were Thomas Berman '79, and Robert Clarke '81, who got 28 and 24 points respectively. Coach O'Brien had a few comments about these two. "Tommy Berman had the best game of the season," he said, "and Bobby Clarke. We are very fortunate in having him."

Coach O'Brien believed, however, that the "key thing for us has been the players off the bench." Then, possibly to complement his original comment before the game, he said, "They really wanted the game.""I

Swimmers finish year 5-3

By Greg Stave

This past Saturday the MIT swim team overpowered Wesleyan 60-30 at Midtown, Connecticut. While this concluded the dual meet season, bringing the final record to 5-3, the Beavers are preparing for the New England Championships which will be held at Springfield College starting on Thursday. Having finished eleventh last year, the team has a good chance to break into the top ten this year.

Wesleyan provided little competition for MIT who won every event except for the 50-yard freestyle race. In the 100-yard freestyle event Gene Heidner '78 and Tom Varney '80 swam side by side the entire forty laps and finished simultaneously. The judges arbitrarily awarded the race to Varney. Tim Ramsey '79 won the 200-yard freestyle event with John Deken '80 right behind him. Ramsey, Deken, Mark Hunterburger '81 and Greg Flores '79 will team up for an 800-yard freestyle relay at the New England Championships in an attempt to qualify for the nationals.

In the sprint races Ken Cabaret '79 won the 50-yard freestyle in 23.1 with Matt Alves '80 taking second with a 23.9 docking. Last in the order was reversed when Ken Cabaret won the 100-yard freestyle in 51.8 for his best time this season. This finish time is even more remarkable because the Wesleyan pool usually produces slower times.

Captains Preston Vorlick '79, who received All-American honors at last year's Nationals, will attempt to qualify again in the 200-yard breaststroke. On Saturday, Vorlick, won that event in 2:25. Chris Mons '80, who won the 200-yard individual medley against Wesleyan, will attempt to qualify in the 500-yard and 200-yard breaststroke events.

The medley relay team of Deken (backstroke), Moss (breaststroke), Flores (butterfly) and Hunterburger (freestyle) also has a good shot at qualifying for the nationals at the upcoming championships meet. Deken, utilizing his now famous "cling and sign" technique, where he hangs on the heels of an unsuspecting opponent and strikes at the end of the race, won the 200-yard backstroke against Wesleyan. He completed the last two laps in 31.5 to thunderous applause from his teammates.

Dive Ken Brady '79 should do well at the New Englands and will probably qualify for the nationals. Brady didn't dive against Wesleyan because he broke a tooth warming up on Saturday. The water under the diving board was only eight feet deep.

Competition at the New England Championship meet will be tough. MIT, a member of the New England Small Colleges Division and NCAA Division III, will be facing schools with larger student populations and several who give athletic scholarships. Excellent progress has been made this season and team members are in peak physical condition but it will take intelligent swimming for the team to finish at one of the best in New England.

Fencers extend NE title string

By Brian F. Wiccales

Bryan F. Wiccales '79 is a member of the varsity fencing team.

The MIT men's fencing team won the New England Championships for the ninth year in a row when they tied Dartmouth for first place Saturday at Dartmouth.

The championship meet was one of the most exciting in recent years. There was a great deal of competition between the top three teams, MIT, Dartmouth, and Trinity, culminating in a very spirited final round when MIT and Dartmouth met. Although somewhat less serious toward the end of the meet, the Tech fencers did keep the winning streak alive.

The subte duo of Dave Karp '78 and Chen-Dao Lin '79 were new to the New Englands, but did manage to win half their bouts, including some important clutch wins.

The other two weapons fared better. Rich Hemplitt '80 and Jen Freidah '81 both made the foil individual finals, after winning 13 out of 18 hours in the team competition. Hemplitt repeated his second place finish of last year, while Freidah came in fifth.

It was nip and tuck for most of the meet, however. The second hall was aggressive as well.

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The Lion in Winter

By William Goldman

directed by David London

THE LION IN WINTER

Robert Clarke '81 should win the Connecticut College championship for two points in Saturday night's game. Clarke combined ten from Berman 79 for 16 points to lead MIT to a 76-64 victory. (Photo by Gary Engleman)