Baseball makes hits and strikes

MIT celebrates after their victory over Lowell last Saturday their first victory over that team in two years. (Photo by Gordon R. Haff)

Rugby team has good outlook

By Connie Cotton

Out of a field of eight teams, the MIT women's rugby club placed second in the Northeast Collegiate Women's Rugby Championship held at Brown University in Providence on April 15 and 16. MIT defeated Williams College 34-0 and Cornell University 28-0 before falling to Brown College 18-0 and Cornell University in Providence on April 16.

Both forwards and backs played well in their first two games, and the victories were the result of a really superb team effort by MIT. The forwards played as a pack and supported better than they have in any previous game. The backs handled the ball well and played an excellent defensive game as well as moving the ball offensively. Although MIT had only 12 players to field against Williams' 15, the opposition forwards never won a single set scrum, nor could their backs manage to get the ball out and set up a score. Scrum half Jan Hammond accounted for two of Tech's tries against Williams, with Nancy Breen '80 and Barbara Kasting contributing the other two.

The game with Cornell on Saturday highlighted the talents of MIT center Nancy Breen. She ran for four scores against the hapless Cornell rugkers, and contributed a number of key tackles. Forward Barbara Kasting and fullback Sandy Rivas were credited with the other Engineers scores. Again, the MIT forwards played a tight game and supported well. The Cornell forwards won very few set scrums and could not manage to get a clean ball out to their backs. Unfortunately, Breen was injured during the game and was unable to play against Brown on Saturday. The championship game with Brown proved to be a disappointment. MIT forwards were no longer the cohesive unit they had been during play on Saturday, and the Engineer backs were not able to get a successful drive going offensively, or to cover their opposing players defensively. The only Tech score came when wing forward Connie Cotton recovered a loose ball in the Brown end zone.

The women's rugby team at MIT has a lot of potential and could conceivably be a serious contender for the New England championship tournaments held in May, but the team still needs more players. Anyone interested in learning to play rugby is invited to come to any practice session on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 5:30-6:30pm at Briggs field. All women staff and students are eligible and welcome. For further information, contact Connie Cotton, '81-765.

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