Sailors season shaping up

By Ed Marcus

Three MIT sailors are still alive at the halfway point of the New England single-handed championships to be held this Spring at MIT. Edward "Ed" Marcus '80 won the elimination round Saturday at Harwood and is one of eight seeded finalists in the competition. Both Gary Smith '81 and Ili-

harведите "Ili" Kovacek '81 finished second in these eliminations, and are going on to the semifinals for the remaining spots in the final competition.

In other competition, the Harvard team won the invitational regatta of the Spring at Fells. The Greater Boston Invitational Championship was held on the Mystic Lakes when

MIT enthusiastic over softball

By Gordon Halff

Despite the loss of one field because of the new track, this year’s IM softball program will allow every team to play five or more games. This is being accomplished by scheduling games as late as 4:30 p.m. and by allowing those teams that cannot make cer-

tain weekends to play doubleheaders.

This season, there are more teams than last year’s total of 123, teams in several of the leagues are hav-

ing more games, which may be a result of the AAA program's elimination of the national teams.

Softball is the largest of the IM sports, with particip-

ation up by about 50 percent of last year’s students.

As a result, it is not surprising that there is more in-

terest in the lower leagues than the upper ones. There are 69 teams in C-League and 53 teams in B-League. How-

ever, there is no "Women’s league" for this year. According to Mr. Gonzales, "I don’t think there was any interest last year."

This interest in the lower leagues has not hurt soft-

ball in its hockey and football. On the contrary, there is considerable interest in A-League. Slow pitch and fast pitch have 18 and 13 teams respectively.

Gonzales said that one of his biggest goals this year was to create interdivisional rivalries in the lower leagues. For example, he attempted to set up a schedule in which floors or entries in a dorm would

play other floors or entries in the same dorm. In do-

ing this, however, Gonzales did not meet with uni-

versal approval. In particular, he noted that Baker residents were very upset at having to play among themselves, and the final schedule was altered so that Baker would not be an intradorm division. Gonzales also noted an advantage of the intradorm system is that it would be much more difficult for teams to present "padded" rosters and then play with players from other floors in the dorm.

The question of playoffs is still undecided. As with all outdoor sports, they will largely depend on the weather. As it stands now, Gonzales sees the possi-

bility of a playoff between the top six teams from slow-pitch A league and the top four teams from fast-pitch A league.

Photo: Gordon Halff