By Toes Curtis

History was made Sunday when the MIT football club took the field at Fitchburg State. For the first time in 33 years, MIT played an intercollegiate football game.

Although the final score (27-12 Fitchburg) was not ideal for an historic occasion, the enthusiasm of the fans was appropriate. More than 100 loyal Beaver fans trek-ked to Fitchburg to cheer the team on. This may have been the largest crowd of MIT students ever to attend an MIT away game in any sport.

In the beginning, the game seemed very promising for MIT. The Beavers received the opening kickoff and proceeded to march down the field, directed by quarterback Bruce Wrobel ’79.

The MIT running backs plowed through the Fitchburg defense continually. The biggest gain of the first half came on a 12-yard pass and a subsequent 15-yard penalty for piling on which brought the ball to the Fitchburg 14.

Wrobel kept the drive alive when he ran a quarterback sneak on third-and-six for an eight yard gain to the two. On the next play, Jeff Olson G scored MIT's historic first touchdown on a drive up the middle. The extra point kick was off to the right and MIT led 6-0.

Unfortunately, the half went downhill from there on. The ball was almost continually on the MIT side of the field; it was never placed in play inside the Fitchburg 50. The MIT offense lost more yards than it gained. Fitchburg took the kickoff following the touchdown and marched down to the MIT 17 before failing to convert a fourth-and-two situation. MIT gained only one yard on the next series and the ensuing punt left Fitchburg on the MIT 42. The MIT offense then marched in for a touchdown which came on the first play of the second quarter. MIT had a chance to stop on another fourth-and-two play, but this time Fitchburg made the yar-dage.

Fitchburg made the extra point kick good and took a slim 7-6 lead. On the kickoff, the Beavers fumbled the ball and Fitchburg recovered on the MIT 40. Fitchburg's Falcons had a golden opportunity but the MIT defense prevented them from scoring a point.

Fitchburg managed to push the ball to the five-yard line, but the Beavers held firm. Chance of rain 10% today. 20% Wednesday, 30% Thursday.

EXCERPTS

A long term geothermal energy program might raise the heat content of the atmosphere to unacceptable levels in centuries. The desire to regulate certain kinds of "unsane" scientific research might strengthen the hold of government interests over other segments of society. The acquisition of heavy industry by a developing nation might improve its economy; it might also decrease environmental quality, increase the crime rate and decrease the quality of services such as education, housing and health care.

If our busy run for civilization, we may destroy the very qualities of the state of human beings, which are implicit components of the web, and that gave us the ability to become civilized.

And all this from our preoccu-pation with the Now. Our love affair with technology, our current obsession with reductionism and reason, on divide and conquer. Social problems can be solved, but only if we temper reductionist perception and reason with a perception of the web and of the indirect consequences of our actions.

— Allen Chen
The Stanford Daily

Jeff Olson (8) glows forward for the MIT football club's historic first touchdown. A crowd of about 500 (not 1,000 as advertised) filled the stands behind the Beavers bench. (Photo by Jon von Zedowsky.)

No new arguments are ex- pected for or against pass/fail grading during freshman year when the re-evaluation begins. Even so, Lazarus urged all "in-individual students, especially freshmen," to talk with their ad-visors and discuss the re-evalua-tion of freshman pass/fail.

Memorial held for dead student

BY Richard Duffy

Baker House and the MIT Shakespeare Ensemble jointly held a memorial in the Chapel yesterday afternoon for David Picking '79, who died in a mountaineering accident early last month.

According to information from Jeffrey Hovis '79, a friend of Pick-ing's, the tragedy occurred while Picking and another friend were attempting a difficult descent from Mt. Hood, Oregon. Both fell to their deaths when some snow and ice broke loose in the high August heat. The two were experienced in mountain climb-ing.

Three scenes from Shakespeare which Picking had particularly liked were enacted at the memorial. It was a religious memorial service — Picking's parents requested that a secular service be given in his memory. Picking, who was majoring in electrical engineering, was active in the Shakespeare Ensemble as an actor, as well as in the MIT Outing Club.

By Jay Glass

For the first time since the Special Grading Committee's report on MIT's experiment in pass/fail grading for freshmen in 1972, the Ad Hoc Committee on Grading will be seriously reviewing the pass/fail system and its major examination of MIT's grading policies.

According to Alan Lazarus, chair of the Committee on Stock-Affairs in charge of the Office of Freshman Advising, many people in favor of re-evaluating freshman pass/fail believe that freshmen don't devote as much time and ef-fort to their studies as they would if they received letter grades. He said, however, "I see no anecdotal evidence that this is true," and that "when freshmen spend time on a subject, it is generally because they are very interested in it and not because they have to work for a grade in that course."

A report from the 1972 Pass/Fail Committee noted that one of the chief strengths of the pass/fail system was its influence on the student's choice of major" by al-low ing them to explore, experi-ment, and learn what they did and didn't like. Although a con-siderable number of students seen unaf fected by the pass/fail grading, the report said that it encourages freshmen to take more subjects, follow their inter-ests, and contributes to a generally more relaxed at-mosphere." Lazarus agreed with the report saying that "freshmen pass/fail encourages exploration of different options," particularly

Fres hman pass/fail under examination

in science and engineering.

Perhaps the largest problem pass/fail grading faced has been that some medical or law schools expect letter grades for the freshman year core courses instead of accepting pass/fail, caus-ing problems for MIT graduates who apply. Some departments countered this by keeping "hidden grades" that were released if a student applied to one of these insti-tutions. Despite the stated policies of some medical schools, the acceptance rate of MIT's graduates has been consistently about 75 to 80 percent, making it one of the highest in the nation.

No new arguments are ex-pected for or against pass/fail grading during freshman year when the re-evaluation begins. Even so, Lazarus urged all "in-individual students, especially freshmen," to talk with their ad-visors and discuss the re-evalua-tion of freshman pass/fail.

Freshman pass/fail under examination

By Jay Glass

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