Sports

Sports arena proceeding

By Bob Host

In an interview last week with The Tech, Athletic Director Rose Horton-Smith was "optimistic" that ground could be broken sometime this spring for the new Francis Cotton-Le-Feld House complex to be built next to Steinhoffen Stadium.

Smith, who is in his 18th year at the position, pointed out that there is a commitment to working drawings for the complex, which will be bid upon this month. The cost is estimated at $7.9 million, of which $5.5 million has already been raised by the Leadership Campaign. He stressed the need for the facility by saying that since MIT has the largest number of sports, it has an obligation to be responsive to the students. This philosophy compounds the need for the new rink and field house, he added, noting that "the point is to be the best at the teams."

Smith expressed satisfaction with the direction the football club has taken, adding that, as opposed to earlier proponents of football's return to campus, the group this year "put up their money, and action where their lips couldn't talk," and made the club sport a success. Smith noted that he concurred with the Athletic Board's recommendation for a continuous club football on a year-to-year basis, saying that, at the present time a varsity football team is "not feasible."

The athletic department is also in the final stages of its search for a new sports information director to succeed acting director Jill Gilgistruck, who Smith complemented as doing a good job, particularly in the area of women's athletics. As soon as the screening process is completed, a new director will be chosen, he said. Smith foresees a "renewed role for a sports information director," including better national coverage, "human interest stories," in Smith's words, of MIT sports.

In the area of intramural participation, Smith indicated that with the new rink, "I think we'll have a stronger hockey program," and that with more students participating in intramurals than in intercollegiate there is a "social cohesion" that is best gained through intramurals, although the students on the varsity teams are there because of the quality of participation at the level they choose to participate at," adding that about 25 percent of the students want more than what intramurals have to offer in certain sports, yet "they want to win. They want to do as well in athletics as they do in the classroom."

Smith admitted that others might consider MIT's attitude aloof, which he claims is not the case in his statement that MIT's sports program is better than those where the policy is "win at any cost;" he closed by adding "I have more respect for our program than any other that I know of."

MIT hockey team takes Tufts, 9-5

By Lou Odote

Editor's note: Lou Odote is a member of the MIT hockey team.

The MIT hockey team defeated Tufts 9-5 last Tuesday night to end the month of January undefeated. Nine different players scored as MIT extended its winning streak to seven. Among those turning in strong efforts were Steve Seliin '81, Royce Buronde '81, and Bob Buyer G.'

MIT, in fact early in the contest, but a goal by Selin from Duane Horton '81 triggered an offensive flurry. At MIT, the Engineers built up a 6-2 lead by the middle of the second period and then coasted to the end.

They were still coasting Friday night for the first of two meetings with Stonehill. Down 6-1 early in the second period before they could pull out of the pits, MIT outscored Stonehill in the remainder of the game, but it wasn't enough as Stonehill went on to win 11-7.

The loss dropped MIT's record to 8-3 with seven games remaining in the season.

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