Rugby sevens play in Harvard tourney

By Tom Bryant

Editor's note: Tom Bryant is a member of the rugby football club.

Last Sunday, May 7, the MIT Rugby Football Club played two sides to the Harvard Business School Seven-Sides Tournament. "Seven" is different from the type of rugby played during the winter of the season, and fierce play highlighted MIT's performance.

The match was fifteen players on each team; they play two forty-minute halves for each match and break it at the 10th minute to recover. In sevens, there are only seven players on a team and halves last a mere seven minutes, with a minute and a half intermission compared to the two-minute break in the regular version of the sport. Since the games are played on the same size field, there is a lot more open room in sevens. Players find that the playing is a lot more exhausted after a sevens match than after a fifteen. One is more exhausted after a sevens match than after a fifteen. One is more exhausted after a sevens match than after a fifteen. One is more exhausted after a sevens match than after a fifteen.

The first team in the triad was the Exiles. Inciting the Exiles, a group of former New England regional players, were playing in the nation's capital and playing for senior clubs such as the Washington DC C, and South American R.F.C. The Exiles beat Boston 10-0 before playing MIT's Aardvarks. It was one of the closest matches of the day. With the Exiles boasting shifty backs and three forwards averaging 255 lbs. and 6'3", the Aardvarks knew they would have to play fast and score seven-man rugby moving the ball around rapidly and outwitting the slower Exiles. The Exiles opened the scoring when one of their jumpers, at 9'7" and 235 lbs., the biggest man in the tournament, showed his ability by grabbing a high line-out and racing down the touch-line for the first try. The two teams battled back and forth for the rest of the half without adding to the 4-0 score.

At the beginning of the second half, the Exiles put another try across from the outside backs before MIT came back. The Aardvarks try was scored by Mark Keating '72, who in the Exiles' defense drove their opponents off the ball. players now living in the nation's side. His fine run from 15 meters out and a convert by John Kavanagh '72 put the Aardvarks back into the game at 4-2.

When Tom Bryant '71 drove a goal through the uprigihts from 25 meters out, the Aardvarks led 9-2. In order to advance to the next round, they needed to win by eight points. In the last two minutes, the play was constantly in the Exiles' half as the smaller Aardvarks showed how they could control the ball against Washington. As the pressure increased, the Aardvarks permitted themselves to be trapped close to the Exiles' line without winning a crucial pass. As the southern hemisphere scrum-half spun the ball out to his backs, the pro-MIT crowd saw a four-on-one overlap materialize. The last gap of the Exiles' fourth man just barely outdistanced the frantic Aardvarks pursuit as the referee whistled the end of the match, with the final score Exiles 12, Aardvarks 9.

Saturday and Sunday

Women's Crew: EAWRC Sprits at Kent, CT Men's Sailing: NERIA Single-handed Championship 9-30am Sunday

Heavyweight and Lightweight Crew: EARC at Quissigmond

By Cindy Cole

Editor's note: Cindy Cole is a member of the women's crew team. MIT's varsity women's crew team swept past a field of twelve crews last Saturday to capture the Alice P. Higgins Trophy on Lake Quissigmond.

The field, consisting mainly of crews local to Worcester, included last year's winner, U Mass, whom MIT defeated by more than a length of a boat.

The junior varsity race went to U Mass, who pulled ahead of MIT, leading at the time, in the last 300 meters of the 2000-meter race. The U Mass boat contained many freshmen who will be rowing in the first novice boat this weekend, so the winning boat was much faster than the one MIT will race on Sunday.

The novice women placed second behind College Connecticut, leaving the field of five other crews trailing. A freshman lightweight four, racing in the varsity fours race, placed fifth.

The season has been good for women's crew. The varsity has been defeated only by Princeton and Yale. As the fastest women's eight that MIT has ever boated, the varsity has upset the positions of many traditionally faster crews. "Many coaches have been uncertain where to rank us," commented coach John Miller.

The second varsity, the most noticeably improved, opened its season by defeating Brown for the first time in four years. This past week during practice the JV has posted times approaching those of last year's varsity.

This Sunday, the Women's Eastern Sprints will be held at Lake Waramaug, Connecticut.

Coach Miller ran the seeding process for this year's Sprints. The system involved a weekly poll of the coaches for the ranking of all crews except their own. Miller handled both the reporting of race results and the collection and conversion of the individual rankings to the overall ranking of the crews which this week provided the seedings for the races on Sunday.

The final seedings are:

Varsity: 1-Yale, 1-Wisconsin, 3-UConn, 4-Princeton, 5-MIT, 6-Dartmouth, 7-Radcliffe, 8-Williams, 9-U Mass, 10-Brun, 11-Syracuse, 12-Northeastern, 13-Conn. College, 14-Brown.

Second Varsity: 1-Yale, 2-Dartmouth, 3-Wisconsin, 4-Princeton, 5-Radcliffe, 6-Williams, 7-UConn, 8-Syracuse, 9-9/MIT, 10-U Mass, 11-Conn. College, 12-Brown.

Novice: 1-Princeton, 2-Wisconsin, 4-Princeton, 5-Dartmouth, 6-UConn, 7-Cornell, 8-Williams, 9-NYU, 10-Brun, 11-Syracuse, 12-Conn. College, 12-MIT, 14-U Mass, 1-Smith.

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