Loss to Trinity puts soccer record at 1-3

By Eric R. Fleming

The MIT soccer team, off to a slow start, dropped its third straight game Saturday, a heartbreaking 2-1 loss to Trinity College, and scored a penalty kick with just one minute remaining in regulation play.

After an opening 2-1 victory against Brandeis last Wednesday, 6-3, the team’s disappointing performance at Clark has one encouraging match. Top-ranked Alex Alesii has had to move his players around, trying to find a good combination.

In the first round, Hanza and Karen Haig, 32, lost to the Boston College team, 6-3, 6-1. Joe Prusse, 86, the varsity captain, and Susan Straussman, 82, lost to a Boston University player, 6-2, 6-2, and Eugu 63 and Nicos Katchis, 82, bow to a Harvard team, 6-1, 6-1.

The team’s next match is at home tomorrow against Brandeis. This weekend, they travel to Princeton, NJ, to compete in the ECAC Tournament.

Despite the inexperience, Coach Alesii noted that the team was “vastly improved” over the previous three games. Still, the team seemed to lose its composure at times, yet generally controlled play, as evidenced by MIT’s 16 shots on goal to 17 for Trinity. Everyone hustled, according to Alesii, and outstanding performances were made by Malcom Duke, 83, who scored the lone MIT goal in the second half, and later banged a shot off the post; Allan Strong, 83, who got by his opponents into the Duke goal, and turned in a fine game both offensively and defensively.

Goofy Gary Davidson, 83, with two key saves midway through the second half, and Jay Walsh, 81, who had two breakaway opportunities led MIT on the road for the next three games, returning home on Wednesday, October 17, against the Boston College Eagles. After that game, three of the five games will be at home, with the season closing at the Coast Guard on November 3. Despite the slow start, progress seems to be well on the way, and if Saturday’s game is an indication of its future, MIT will have a soccer team to cheer about in the next couple of years.

By Steve Kim

To rebound from a disastrous 2-12 season in 1978 is hard enough in itself, but to have to attempt it with a team made up of one junior and the rest freshmen and sophomores is an unenviable task to the least. Yet, this situation faces the MIT women’s varsity tennis squad in the 1979 season.

Not only is the team relatively young, but the only returnee with a win-loss record from last year is Karen Haig, a sophomore who won 11-3 in 1978. Other returning include Alison Katchis, 82, Magla Louise Mavry, 82, Jenny Bostine, 81, and Emily McMahon, 82. Newcomer Susan Straussman, 82, was set to play number two singles this year and did so in matches against Brandeis and Brown before being lost for the rest of the season due to an ankle injury. Katchis was moved up to fill her spot, and Mavry, Bostine, McMahon, and freshman Sarah Gavit played numbers three, four, five, and six singles, respectively.

The opening match put the squad up against Brandeis. The match displayed consistent doubles play on Tech’s part, but Brandeis turned it into a rout in the singles. The first singles player was the only singles player to win a match as the team went down to defeat, 5-4. Next on the schedule was the Boston College. The Engineers quality took the top four hands by winning four of the six singles. They added two more doubles matches to this total and put their first notch in the win column. It was at this point that the team lost its number two singles player, Straussman, to injury. The lineup had to be shufled up a good deal to accommodate the infortunate loss. It was definitely a factor in the next match as MIT was crushed by Bowdoin 8-1, Haigh being the only winner. The new lineup became a bit more steady in the next match against Bates, winning three doubles matches and a doubles match. Yet, it was not enough as Bates squeaked out a 5-4 victory.

Although the Engineers are 1-3 so far in this season, Coach Manly Weiss does not feel that this will be the end of the final record this year. “Our team should be 500 this season, and Karen [Haul] could possibly go undefeated,” he said. 1979 is without doubt a rebuilding year for women’s varsity tennis. The next two years should see the whole of the final record, as this year’s team is an unenviable task match displayed consistent doubles.

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