MIT edges Judges; 13 year spell ends

By Eric R. Fleming

The men's basketball team opened its 1980-81 campaign Saturday evening at Brandeis, and came away with a 65-63 victory against the Judges. Tech's win was the first against Brandeis in 13 years. The game was close throughout, as the biggest advantage either club could muster was six points. Brandeis led by four, 33-29, on the strength of sophomore Steven Wood's 20 first half points, an 11-for-14 shooting (including his first eight shots). MIT's defense could not contain the Judges' attack in the first half, as the home team shot 55 percent from the floor, and coasted the Engineers 23-17.

In the second half, the Tech defense came to life. Coach Fran O'Brien's strategy of inspiring the ball in the corner forced many errant passes by Brandeis. The visitors assumed control late in the half, but Brandeis hung on. In the last two minutes, guards Steve Williams '82 and Mark Branch '83 hit key free throws to give MIT a 65-61 lead with less than a minute to play, but Brandeis guard Kevin McCall '82 (who scored 17 points, 15 in the second half) hit a jumper to make the score 65-63. Branch was fouled after the bucket, and missed the front end of the one-and-one foul situation, Brandeis took the ball upcourt with 13 seconds remaining for one last attempt to tie. McCall took the last shot at the buzzer, with the attempt going off the rim as the game ended.

Branch led MIT with 20 points, including four crucial stretch run free throws. Sophomore Robert Joseph added 13 and some fine defensive work in the second half, while senior captain Bob Clarke put in 12. Forward Mike Greer '83 led the Tech rebounders, pulling in eight boards, and one blocked shot. For Brandeis, Wood could only manage a free throw in the second stanza, and fouled out late in the half. The Judges were shut down offensive-ly, shooting only 26 percent from the field in the second half, and committing 22 turnovers overall, to only 10 for MIT.

The Engineers open the home season against Robert tomorrow night in Rockwell Cage, with tipoff slated for 8pm.

sports update

Fencing — Men's fencing opened Saturday with a 36-11 win over St. John's at MIT. Senior captain Geoff Pioggio led the home team with a victory in the Epee class.

Wrestling — New coach Tim Walsh's debut was spoiled Sunday as Plymouth State defeated the Tech wrestlers, 27-13. MIT competitors won in four weight classes: Bob McElheny '83, 134 lbs.; Ken Shull '84, 142 lbs.; Al Russell '82, 150 lbs.; and Steve Leibert '83, 167 lbs.

Swimming — The Engineers finished third at Sunday's relays at Boston College. Coach John Benedick was pleased by his squad's showing in this initial meet of the winter swim season, with Northeastern taking second place honors.

Techmen honored

By Eric R. Fleming

Several MIT athletes have been selected as members of all-star teams in their respective sports.

In soccer, Senior co-capains Bill Uhte and Jay Walsh, and sophomore John Bau have been named to the 1980 Greater Boston League (GBL) all-star team. Bau, who was named to the squad last year, led the Engineers in scoring with five goals and two assists while playing the sweeper and forward posi-
tions. Walsh (also a member of 1979 honor squad) scored four goals in 1980, and Uhte, a native of Miami, Florida, scored five points (two goals, three assists).

Junior Dave Erickson was named to the first team all-New England water polo squad. The Akron, Ohio native led MIT in scoring as the Engineers finished 9-6 in 1980, with a third place finish in the New England cham-
pionships. John Weantert '81 and John Friedman '82 were selected to the second team.

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