Defense leads club football to 7-0 victory

By Martin Dickas

A strong defensive effort on the part of the MIT Football Club paved the way to a 7-0 victory over Roger Williams Saturday afternoon. It was the Engineers' first victory of the season, bringing their record to 1-1. Roger Williams drops to 0-2.

Doug Gouchoe '83 led the defense with two interceptions for the Engineers, the first of which led to the lone touchdown of the game.

With Roger Williams on its own thirty-eight, Seahawks' quarterback Barry Jordan '83 fumbled the ball as he was hit by the arms of waiting Gouchoe, who returned the ball in the air. A cold drizzle had been falling throughout the entire game, and the chill in the air had a noticeable effect on the passing. Parker's pass went right into the waiting Gouchoe, who fumbled the ball as he was hit from behind.

Rich Knowsky '82 alertly picked up the ball, however, and ran it back twenty-eight yards to the Seahawks' nineteen. The Engineers advanced to within the thirty-yard line and finally had to try for a touchdown with only fifty-six seconds to go in the first quarter. Will Smith '84 kicked the extra point, making the score 7-0.

Although Roger Williams managed to move the ball almost as far as MIT (168-93 yds.), the MIT defense was able to force seven turnovers. Besides the two interceptions by Gouchoe, Rich Knowsky '82 and Mike Ambrogi '83 had one interception each on the afternoons. Eric Brandt '84 and John Einhorn '85 also came up with two fumble recoveries for MIT.

The closest the MIT defense allowed the Seahawks to come was early in the second period when Roger Williams drove all the way to the MIT eight only to be forced out to the thirteen. The Seahawks were unable to get past the MIT line and finally had to try for a thirty-yard field goal. The attempt failed, preserving MIT's slim seven point lead.

MIT had one other good chance to score late in the fourth quarter. Having driven fifty-nine yards in six plays, including a thirty-yard pass by Barry Jordan to John DeReubis '84, the Engineers found themselves facing first down and four yards to go for a touchdown. Three plays later it was fourth and one. Barry Jordan then threw what would have been an incomplete pass, but a penalty was called, giving the Seahawks the ball on their own twenty.

Engineers' head coach Dwight Smith was pleased with the results of the game. "The defense played very well," he noted and then added, "It's extremely difficult to play well when it's wet." He explained, "We lost our first game, the second was a 7-6 win, and then we never lost again.

Four years ago, historians look back on the MIT defense as one of the most successful defensive efforts in the history of its athletic programs. The first victory of the season, bringing their record to 1-1.

For several years, half-formed plans for a women's club soccer team have existed, and this year, the club team has become a reality. Practices are being held every Wednesday and Friday from 7:15 to 8:15am on Briggs Field. The players range from skilled competitors with four years' experience to equally enthusiastic individuals with no previous playing experience. Any undergraduate women interested in playing on the team are encouraged to come to practice this week. Anyone wanting more information should call Mary at 535-537.

The MIT women's sailing team hosted the Man-labs trophy on the Charles River last Sunday. (Photo by Gerard Weatherby)