Volleyball takes six matches

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MIT match. When the MIT squad began warming up for its first match, Bates watched with interest. Coach Castanon called his team together and said, "I hate being scouted so let's do something crazy." The Engineers proceeded to practice a "one set," a difficult maneuver consisting of a setter setting the ball at the same time as a hitter is jumping to spike it. The one set is virtually impossible to block without practice because of the speed with which it is executed. The MIT squad had difficulty controlling its amusement at the worried looks on the faces of the Bates players.

Warm-ups, however, ended quickly, and MIT faced the University of Southern Maine. After winning the first game of the match easily 15-1, the team was able to test its depth when Castanon played a variety of players in new positions. Usually playing in the back row, players such as Damaris Ayuso '84 adjusted easily to fast row play, hitting well on routes to a 15-2 MIT victory.

The Engineers next played the University of Maine at Farmington. After an easy 13-6 first game win, the squad again turned to its bench. The six players on the court had little experience playing together and failed to work as a team although they almost won anyway, losing the game 12-15. Castanon, upset by the lack of communication on the court, started six different people in the third game. Koster served MIT through the first half of the game, baffling the University of Maine players with her hard floater serve, and Anella Munro '85, receiving perfect sets from Plano, continually slammed the ball down the line into a large hole in the defense. Playing as a unit, the squad easily shut out U Maine 15-6.

In its third match, the MIT team faced Saint Joseph's College. After MIT breezed through the first game 15-3, Castanon removed all his starters and asked the bench to play as a team this time around. Given a second chance, the bench players did not disappoint him. Amy Smith '84 adjusted easily to front row play, hitting well on routes to a 15-3 MIT victory.

The last match pitted MIT against Bates — and Tech was ready. Bates, originally flustered by the one set but somewhat relieved after MIT lost one game to U Maine, did not appear too worried. Once the game started, however, the Bates players seemed to have second thoughts. With MIT blockers such as Julie Koster '85 effectively stopping most of the Bates offense, Bates proved to be no match for MIT and dropped the first game, 15-2.

Tech's offense played especially well in the second game, lead by spikers Peggy Kniffen '83 and Westland. MIT again defeated Bates 15-2, improving its season record to 16-2. Tomorrow the Engineers meet Eastern Connecticut, A.I.C., and Fitchburg at home beginning at 1pm in Rockwell Cage.

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