**Water Polo best ever**

By Robert E. Maltman

"This is, without a doubt, the best team I've ever had," de-
cscribed John Benedick, the eight-
year coach of the men's water
polo team. The squad's performance has
borne out Benedick's praise, as the
Bucknell team swept through the MIT
Open Tournament September
23-24, defeating RPI 19-3, Vilia-
ova 16-9, UMass 14-3, and Am-
herst 17-3.

The team's only two defeats this
year came at the Brown Uni-
versity Tournament, MIT lost 23-
3 to Loyola, called "one of the best
teams in the country," by Benedick,
and 14-10 by a "bearable" Bucknell
squad.

MIT is currently ranked third by a
coach's poll, behind Brown, Columbia, Harvard, U. Mass, Yale. Men fin-
ished third for the past seven
years behind Brown, the penda-
nial champion, and either Har-
vard or Yale.

Benedick has set two goals for his
team this year. One is to ad-
vance to the New England Championships (to be held at MIT on November 6 and 7) by
finishing among the top four
teams in the league, as they have
done during each year of Bene-
dick's direction. MIT has never
accomplished the other, going to
the Eastern Championships by
finishing first or second.

The big scorers for MIT have been
co-captain John Friedman '83 with 16 goals; Dave Ericson '83 with four goals in each of the
first three games; and George Au-
quette '85 with 10 goals. Former
high school All-American Rob Gilgan '85 started strong with five goals against RPI. (Statistics for the Bucknell game were not available).

Other starters are co-captain
Peter Kahle '83, John Roberts '83, John Schmitz '83, John In-
den '84, and goalkeeper Bruce
Hildebrand '84. Benedick said
the line-up varied, however, "de-
pending upon who looked good
in practice."

Other members of the team are
David MacKay '84, John Ashely '83, David Tempel '85, and a
promising crop of freshmen, Timothy Burke, Renton Carsley,
Greg Fraher, Todd Kooling, Jo-
seph Lo, Brett Miwa, Alan Kudel,
Andrew Schiller, and Paul Valu-
in.

MIT hosts Army, Brown, Har-
vard, and RPI at the Alumni Pool
day all day tomorrow, beginning
at 9am. The first league tour-
name will be at Harvard October
ninth.