Men's basketball drops 90-70 decision to Suffolk University

By Eric R. Fleming

It may have been cold outside, but someone forgot to tell Suffolk University Wednesday night. The Rams shot a blistering 67.3 percent from the field en route to a 90-70 win over the men's basketball team at the Cambridge YMCA.

Except for turnovers, the first 20 minutes was rather well played. MIT jumped out to an early advantage, thanks to some fine work inside by Chris Wilson '84 and Robert Joseph '83, who again played well on both ends of the floor. Wilson, despite being out-sized by the bulk of the Rams' center John McDonough, used a number of nifty moves to get his seven first-half points. For the most part, the Engineers managed to do what they wanted offensively, and moved ahead by seven, 29-22 at 6:23.

Unfortunately, things began to get a little warm, but not for MIT. Suffolk, led by guard Bill Zarella (5-for-6 from the floor) and Andy Dagle, outscored the MITs 14-3 to go into the lockerroom enjoying a 36-32 lead.

If the Rams cooled off in the second half, it was only in the numbers. McDonough, who probably runs the 40-yard dash in four days, began to get easy baskets underneath, and helped break the MIT press by swallowing up outlet passes at half-court. Meanwhile, Zarella finally missed, but not matter. Forward David Gray commended firing in missiles from the corner. Dagle helped as well; on one play, he simply cut right down the lane, and took a pass for an easy alley-oop style layup. Tech managed to get within two at 41-39, but by the time the final buzzer sounded, Suffolk had pounded in 24 second-half points, including 16 from the charity stripe.

The Rams shot 19-for-29 from the field in the second half, and had five players in double figures, led by McDonough with 19. He also joined the 1000-point club with a short jumper midway through the second half.

Mark Branch '83 led MIT with 19 points, 17 in the second half. Joseph contributed 18, along with four rebounds and three steals. Charlie Theuer '85 had his second straight fine hard-nosed game; though he only shot 1-for-6 from the floor, he went 5-for-6 from the line, with five rebounds and two steals.

Hoop notes: Monday night's Gordon game, which was postponed due to the storm, has been rescheduled for next Monday, the 14th, at 8pm...Clark, ranked 14th in the nation in Division III, invades the Cage tomorrow at 2pm...Branch, with his 19 points Wednesday, moves into fourth place on the MIT all-time scoring list with 1560 points, surpassing Peter Jackson '73, who has 1397...Fortunately, the condition of the floor Wednesday night was not conducive to ice skating, though you could see some sliding every now and then..."Turkey" of the game goes to the guy who put music on the P.A. system when MIT's cheerleading squad was about to do a routine at halftime.

MIT's water polo team keeps its heads above water.

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