Volleyball sweeps tournament, 7-0

By Robert E. Malchman
Eastern Connecticut State University (ECSU) was the only team to defeat MIT women's volleyball twice last year. The Engineers exacted revenge this weekend, romping undefeated through the Salem State Invitational Tournament, downing the Warhorses 15-11, 17-15, along the way.

The teams began evenly in the first game, before MIT pulled ahead at the finish. "We scouted [ECSU] when they played [the University of] Vermont," said coach Karyn Altman '78. "Their strategy is to fake out our blockers, but that leaves them with less options," she explained.

"They were pretty easy for us to read," Altman said. MIT was able to deny ECSU's narrowed range of shot options, she said.

The second game began badly, as MIT fell behind 7-2. "We were making serving and passing errors," Altman said. "We gave them a lot of free balls."

One mistake by a team will often lead to a major breakdown, Altman continued. "Volleyball, more than any other game I know, is a game of streaks." If a team has problems on defense, the offense will never get a chance, she said.

ECSU took MIT to gamne point, 14-9. MIT won back the ball, giving the serve to Anella Munro '85. The Engineers scored five straight points from Munro's well-placed serves, including an ace, to pull even before going on to win the game. "Anella just decided to be aggressive out there," Altman explained.

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