Basketball begins with five injured

By Eric R. Fleming

The men's basketball season promises to be one of the most interesting in recent memory. Coach Fran O'Brien's cage will play in a tournament in Rochester, N.Y., Sept. 30-Oct. 2 and will also take a historic goodwill tour of India in January. The team, however, must contend with a rash of pre-season injuries.

The injury bug claimed five victims: co-captains Mark Johnson '84 (knee) and Chris Wilson '84 (ankle), and Jim Egan '84 (thigh), Johnson's and Wilson's ailments are particularly damaging to the team, however, as both players were having their best pre-season seasons. O'Brien hopes that the two seniors will be back sometime after the Rochester tourney. Yu is out for the season, while Egan and Bornstein are playing, but not at 100 percent.

As a result of the injuries, the burden for the team's early season falls onto young shoulders. Bud Taddiken '85, who was expected to see action at forward and center, will now play predominantly in the pivot. Charlie Thomas '83 will also play more. Terry McDaniel '84 and Alex Rosen '86 will help out up front. Greg Bartlett '85 and sophomore Craig Poole and Randy Wilson will share the point duties and with Egan. Bartlett and Poole will work out of point guard, although "Craig belongs in the corner," says O'Brien. Referee notes: MIT opens the season tomorrow at 7 p.m. in Rockwell Cage with the University of La Verne (Cal.) December 9-10.

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