Sports

Fencing hosts tournament

By Mike Blahnik

The men’s fencing team will host the Intercollegiate Fencing Association Championships at duPont Gymnasium this weekend. The top three finishers in each competition will qualify for the National Championships at Princeton University March 29.

“The fencing will be very competitive this weekend since several of the teams will be vying for spots on the United States Olympic Team,” said MIT Coach Eric Sollee.

MIT’s Russell Holtz ’84 is the defending Individual Fencing Association champion. Holtz finished 12th in the National Championships last year. Mitch Mescher ’85 finished fourth in the IFAA foil division last year and the Engineers placed third in the team foil competition.

Team Captain Charles Kwon ’84 has fenced a strong season in saber and Alan Williams ’85 has fenced competitively in epee.

The Engineers rolled through the 13-team New England Regionals at University of Massachusetts on Feb. 25, capturing all three individual championships as well as the team title. The team championship was MIT’s 16th New England Regional title in its 14 years of competition.

At Ambrose, Mescher won the foil championship. Kwon claimed the saber title, and Williams took honors in the epee division. All three were in close-fought against fencers who had earlier defeated them, but each fencer claimed the final. Mescher holds an 87-41 record for Sollee’s nine years of coaching, but Williams is the only senior on the team. MIT holds an 87-41 record for the team. The Engineers finished sixth of 18 teams in the NCAA Division III Championships at Holy Cross College, five points behind William and Mary College.

The 12-team field is the meet, which includes teams from all three NCAA divisions, is headed by a strong Columbia team. Other teams will be the University of Pennsylvania, which won the team title the past four years and is the defending champion in both epee and saber. Princeton University is the defending champion in the foil competition.

Other teams competing in the meet will be Brandeis University, City College of New York, Cornell University, Harvard University, the US Naval Academy, New York University, St. John’s University, and Yale University.

Women fence to 1-4 season

The women’s fencing team compiled a 12-4 overall record this season. Two of the losses were in close competitions on the number of touches. The Engineers finished fifth of 18 teams in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Regionals last weekend at New York University.

Captain Vivian Wang ’84 finished 12th overall. On Feb. 25, the women placed second of 10 teams in the New England Championships at Holy Cross College, five points behind William and Mary College.

The team. MIT placed Wang, Huber and Ann Zalduhad ’86 on the All-New England Intercollegiate Fencing team.

In ten years of competition under the coaching of Sollee, the women’s team has compiled an overall record of 102-59.