Volleyball team romps over Salem St. in season opener

By Paul Paterson
It was back to business for the women's volleyball team Wednes-
day night, as it defeated visiting Salem State in three consecutive games 15-6, 15-7, and 15-4.

Solid defense, adequate spau-
ing and some occasional displays of hard hitting combined to give the Engineers the victory.

The win came as no surprise. Salem State was expected to be one of the easiest teams on the schedule.

The Engineers, however, did not take the past of-

defense to its fullest potential. The team had been practicing the faster game plan, designed by MIT head coach Karyn Altman '88.

"We didn't expect the fast of-
defense to work great," Altman said, noting that the team's defense in the early part of the season. The setting and hitting, she added, comes with time.

MIT put together a last middle attack. Such an attack is de-
signed to "free the other team's middle defender to block star-
middle" and remain in one place, Altman explained.

Keeping that middle defender stationary was MIT's outside hit-
ters, Janette Knuth '85 and An-
trella Munro '85, a chance to di-

play their offensive abilities. The pair saved the crowd on many oc-
casions with monstrous smashes.

Munro sat out most of the third game with a lower back prob-

lem.

Two other bright spots were Rachel Chia '87 and Janet Smith '86. Chia's sparkling defense saved the team many a point, while Smith filled the role of set-
tar.

Altman was satisfied with her team's defensive effort, but felt that after the first of the three games, the team did not reach its full potential. Despite this minor flaw the Engineers remained cool on the floor, winning with an ex-
aordinary style.

Even a delay in play, after a controver-

sory with the referee, did not affect the players' compo-

sure. The problem occurred when Salem State saved out of ca-

tion twice.

The National Collegiate Ath-
lite Association's rules state that any point gained on an illegal rotation are null and void. After a lengthy discussion, the officials deducted two points from Salem State's score.

The Engineers will be in action again Wednesday, when they visit the Eagles of Boston College.

Next weekend, the team will par-


cipate in the Salem State Tour-
nament, before moving on to the Juniata (Pa.) Tournament the following Friday and Saturday.

The squad will return home Thursday Oct. 11, when it will host Wellesley College at 7 pm in the UI-Pon gymnasium.

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