By Paul Paterson

The women's volleyball team will be competing in the NCAA Division III playoffs for the third straight year. The Engineers, who posted a 3-1 record during the season, will host the first round of competition this weekend.

A total of 24 Division III squads have been selected to participate in the national tournament. These teams were partitioned into eight sections based on geographical location. One team from each region will travel to the Regional Finals. MIT will meet Eastern Connecticut State University (33-14) this Saturday. The Engineers defeated ECSC earlier this season in a closely-contested match.

Coach Kayen Altmann '87 also noted the significance of the second round, which could match the Engineers against first-ranked Juniata. MIT led for seventh place with 12 wins in the national rankings.

The Engineers finished their season by sweeping the Northeastern International Tournament, winning the last three matches. The team swept UMass-Amherst, New York Tech, and Canisius College University.

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Cross country advances to NCAA Div III finals

By Robert Zak

The men's cross country team raced to sixth place overall and fourth among teams eligible for the nationals in Saturday's New England Championships at Franklin Park.

The Engineers, as a result of their fourth place, will be one of the four New England teams that will compete in the national Division III championships in Ohio next Saturday.

Teams from 27 area schools gathered at the finish for the start of the race. Many of the runners, ironically, posted slower finishing times than they had in other meets.

Brandeis' Mark Berman led the pack, finishing with a time of 21:55, far from the race record. The Engineers were also plagued by poor performance.

MIT showed its mettle by running a 3-1 and a 3-2 race, despite the poorer than usual times. The Engineers, in order to finish fourth or better, needed to place at least one runner near the top.

Bill Bruno '85, MIT's top runner, responded to that need by running with the leaders from the race's outset. Bruno held on to finish 13th overall. Bill Muller '86 also met the day's challenge, placing second for MIT and 20th overall. Terry McNichol '87 was the closest Engineer to cross the line. McNichol's strong final mile placed him 30th overall.

MIT's final score of 135 qualified them behind Brown (38), Mount Holyoke and Simmons (29), and last year's third-place finisher.)

The Engineers' training regimen was designed to have the runners peak in tomorrow's race. The team's goal is to finish among the top ten in Division III teams in the nation.

The seven-mile run begins at 10:15 a.m. tomorrow in the midst of Boston's first snowfall of the season. The workout was the last step in the Engineers' training regimen which was designed to have the runners peak in tomorrow's race.

The team's goal is to finish among the top ten in Division III teams in the nation. The Engineers will run five miles of rolling hills and 26 minutes or so of super effort.

Victorious football bound for playoffs

By Martin Dickau

Linebacker Eden Warner '85, his fractured finger safely inside a padded cast, intercepted a potential touchdown pass with less than eight minutes left in the game to preserve the football club's 16-9 win over the Roger Williams Hawks in Steinfeldt Stadium Saturday afternoon.

The win, combined with As- tronomy's 40-7 loss at Worcester State, earned MIT a berth in the National Collegiate Association (NCFA) playoffs.

Warner, who sat out the previous two games due to his in- jured finger, made his presence felt in the defensive lineup, lead- ing MIT with 12 tackles — in- cluding three sacks, a fumble recovery, and an interception.

Warner's interception thwarted the Hawks' last chance to erase MIT's 16-9 lead. Roger Williams had moved the ball from its own 29-yard line to the MIT 10 in 13 plays. Halfback Chris McCarthy dropped back to pass, but Warner moved in to break the intended pass, made the catch, and sprinted 62 yards along the sideline. "Roger Williams could bring him down though," Warner said.

The Hawks managed to get the game's only touchdown with five minutes remaining, and that drive, too, ended in a turnover. This time, defense- back John Davis '85 made the stop.

This weekend, MIT will travel to Rochester, N.Y., to face the University of Rochester Yellowjackets (20-7) Saturday afternoon. Rochester, which plays its home games at the University of Rochester, is 7-2 this season.