Football defeats Merrimack

By Paul Paternoster

Even Hurricane Gloria would have been no match for the tough MIT defense, as Merrimack painfully found out Sunday. The football team shut out the visiting Warriors 15-0.

The stingy Engineer defense allowed the Warriors a mere 62 total offensive yards. Merrimack's ground game often ended up in the wrong direction, accounting for a net -17 yards.

An air of tempered enthusiasm seemed to accompany the win, MIT's first of the season. The Warriors, a first-year team, had not been expected to pose any threat to the Engineers. "We would have been disappointed if they had scored," said co-captain Nick Nowak '86.

Rich Rice '87 provided a major contribution to the defensive effort. The 5'11" 195-pounder sacked the Warriors' quarterback five times, with most of those sacks occurring on key third and fourth down plays. Linebacker Mark Hanson '88 led the team in tackles with 13 (three unassisted, ten assisted). Co-captains Nowak and Larry Monroe together accounted for 15 tackles.

MIT's offense was less than overwhelming. The Beaver ground game accounted for 167 yards. Chris Adams '87 was the star for MIT, cutting and dashing for 97 yards in 18 carries. Hugh Ekberg '88 drove for 34 hard-earned yards on nine carries. Quarterback Peter Gasparini '86 had a difficult game, completing only two of 13 passes, both to Ken Corless '88, for 65 yards.

The Engineers opened the scoring in the first quarter, capitalizing on good field position. A 13-yard punt return by Shane Arnold '88 gave MIT the ball on Merrimack's 31-yard line. Ground-gains by Adams, Ekberg and Chris Maeda '89 moved the ball to within the ten-yard line. An interference penalty pushed the ball ahead to the two-yard line. At that time, MIT's first runner was Sean Kelley '89 in fifth place, and the intermediate score had the Judges ahead of the Engineers by more than ten points.

But "our guys just wanted it more than Brandeis did," said Coach Halston Taylor. Kelley's face clearly expressed this sentiment; by the third mile he moved into second place, passing runners from Bentley and Brandeis. A pack of determined MIT players narrowed the gap. Kelley's face clearly expressed this sentiment; by the third mile he moved into second place, passing runners from Bentley and Brandeis.

Cross country defeats top ranked Brandeis

By Robert Zak

The men's cross country team narrowly defeated long-time rival Brandeis University in the Brandeis Invitational Meet Saturday.

The win marked MIT's first victory over defending New England Division III champion Brandeis since 1966. The Engineers also bettered teams from Bentley and Tufts.


Hurricane Gloria strewed debris ranging from acorns to oak trees on the course at Boston's Franklin Park. Members of the four competing teams periodically stopped to clear brush out of the way. The course ended up with a few minor diversions and an occasional barrier, but none deterred any of the runners.

The meet appeared to be a race between Brandeis and MIT from the outset. The Brandeis Judges looked strong at both the one and two-mile points of the five-mile race. They held first, fourth, sixth and seventh places after two miles. At that time, MIT's first runner was Sean Kelley '89 in fifth place, and the intermediate score had the Judges ahead of the Engineers by more than ten points.

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