Heavyweight crew rows past Columbia in opener

By William Hou

The men’s heavyweight varsity crew came from behind to defeat Columbia University in its season-opening meet Saturday on the Charles River. The race was the tenth running of the MIT Columbia Alumni Cup and the second consecutive year MIT retained the trophy.

The entire 2000-meter race was very close from the star. MIT jumped off to a quick two-seat lead, but Columbia pulled even after 500 meters. Columbia gained a six-seat advantage at the 800-meter point where an MIT crewman caught a crab (was unable to remove his oar from the water properly at crab) and responded with a power-20 (20 very intense strokes). With 500 meters to go, the varsity crew was only two seats down.

Both crews then began to increase their cadence (strokes per minute) for the final spurt to the finish line.

With 200 meters to go, the MIT boat pulled even and then rowed through Columbia. The Engineers finished the race with a two-seat advantage and a time of 6:07.5, less than a second ahead of Columbia’s 6:08.2.

The winning boat consisted of: bow Bill Van Doorne ’87, Rick Wheeler ’88, Alex Jeannin ’88, Bill Maderki ’88, Bob Smith ’87, Geoff Kiehl ’87, Jim Nugent ’86, stroke Bob Benderham ’87 and coxswain Sue Schmoll ’86.

The other MIT heavyweight crews did not fare as well against Columbia. The second varsity race was won by Columbia with a time of 6:22.5. The MIT junior varsity boat finished in 6:50.3. Columbia’s first freshmen boat edged out MIT by three seats. As in the varsity race, MIT caught a crab after 500 meters and fell behind by four seats. MIT eventually pulled even after 1500 meters, but Columbia won the final spurt with a time of 6:19.5. MIT’s time was 6:21.7.

The second freshmen boat raced in horrendous race conditions and lost by a length.

The lightweight’s next race will be this Saturday against Coast Guard on the Charles River.

Lightweights Sweep WPI

All the men’s lightweight crews defeated their Worcester Polytechnic Institute opponents last Saturday on the Charles River. None of the MIT boats were ever behind in their races.

A strong headwind on the race (Please turn to page 15).

Men’s bowling team has best season ever

By Paul Paternoster

Robert Davidsen ’86, captain of MIT’s bowling team, set some very high goals for his team at the beginning of the season. While the team fell short of reaching those heights, the 1985-86 season brought unprecedented success for MIT bowlers.

Davidsen went out on a limb last year, predicting that MIT would reach a national tournament. MIT fell only two tournaments short of reaching that goal. For the first time in the six-year history of the men’s squad, MIT took first place in the Massachusetts Conference, an achievement that no other school in the nation has ever come close to matching.

Recently, the Institute dominated its opponents in the Associated Collegiate Unions International (ACUI) Tournament. Previous MIT bowling teams had never taken a higher place within the conference.

It was an exciting season for MIT bowlers, the captain said. “Up to the tenth frame of the final game, the conference was up for grabs.” Arch-rivals MIT and Lowell University battled all season long to earn the top spot in the Massachusetts Conference. But when all the pins had settled, it was MIT who had pulled from behind to earn the title.

The highlights of season competition were the Tri-State League for MIT seemed to focus on Lowell. Back in November, MIT defeated Lowell 15-12. In that tournament’s Tim Shirley ’87 rolled a 707 series, an MIT record. Davidsen also added a 630 series, his career high. The team as a whole scored a 2816 series, 5th in the nation. The MIT team also took high game with a 254.

The outlook for next year’s team is positive. Shirley, Gilchrist and Rick Berg ’87 (21-21 on the season) will be back. Rumor has it that one of the top high school bowlers in the nation has been accepted to MIT.

The women’s bowling team completed its first season in the league. Audrey Ching ’86, Erica Shane ’86, Lisa Shane ’89 and Cynara Wu ’90 gave it their best shot at establishing themselves in the tri-state league. While they had a tough season, they showed signs of improvement towards the latter part of the schedule. Considering that the team is a young one, they can only get better.