sports

MIT Beavers and UMass-Boston play to 14-14 tie

By Shawn Mastrian

The good news from last Saturday's football game was that MIT extended its unbeaten streak to three games. The bad news was that the Beavers had to do this by settling for a 14-14 tie at the University of Massachusetts at Boston, a team they should have beaten.

The game started with MIT winning the coin toss and receiving the opening kickoff. Ominously, Jeff Drbohlav '93 muffed this kick, but Doug Smith '93 was able to recover, allowing the Beavers to have the opening possession. This, however, proved unimportant as the offense gained but one first down and was forced to punt.

The defense, despite yielding 34 points last week against MIT, ran out strong. Larry Donohue '90 sacked the UMB quarterback on the first play for a five yard loss. Then, after an incomplete, Fred Loh '92 intercepted his second pass in as many games, giving MIT the ball back. Unfortunately, it was three plays and punt for the offense.

The Beacons then put together a small drive of their own, netting 16 yards. This should have been much less, however, as Art Waring '89 tried to knock down Loh for a large pass interference call on third down, which would have forced a punt sooner. Nonetheless, the defense overcame this adversity and stopped the Beavers on fourth down. This is when the Beavers got their offense in gear. On the previous two drives, MIT was uncharacteristically trying to set up their running game by passing. On this drive, the offense reverted to their typical grind-it-out type of offense.

Shane LaHousse '90 ran for eight yards on the first two plays, and then Garrett Moore '91 punished several UMB defenders as he ran for 23 yards to the UMB 15 yard line. This play set up LaHousse for a 15-yard scramble to the UMB 1 yard line, giving MIT a 7-0 lead.

After the kickoff, the Beavers reverted to the passing attack, and once again failed to move the ball. The next Beacon series was exciting, in that one unexcellent MIT supporter and the scoreboard referee were engaged in a shouting match (which nearly turned physical) over the previous fumble calls. On the field, the defense held the Beacons to eight yards on three plays, forcing a punt. The next two MIT and UMB series were both identical to these, except MIT did manage one first down over this span.

The offense finally found the correct pass pattern. Two Moone runs gave MIT a first down, and a catch by Dan Berkery '91 gave them another. Two chop-chop personal fouls also helped the Beavers to move the ball down the field, along with two LaHousse runs. On first-and-goal from the one, with only 15 seconds left in the half, Moore rammed it home behind a solid offensive line surge. The extra point gave MIT a 14-0 lead, which stood until halftime.

The second half turned out, not surprisingly, to be very much like the first. Whenever MIT ran the ball first and passed second, the Beavers moved the ball well. Whenever passes came first, however, the UMB defenders would sit back, ignore the run, and stop the Beavers. On defense, the trend continued as well. When UMB touched the ball, they were stopped.

The exception to this rule was the scoring drive. The Beacons managed a 40-yard pass on the first play of this drive, and pushed the ball downhill. The key play here was once again made by the UMB players wearing the striped shirts as a personal foul moved the ball downhill when the Beacons seemed stopped. From here, a desperation pass found the arms of a UMB receiver, and the Beacons were within 14-12. On the two point conversion, the UMB runner faked his way across the goal line by the slimmest of margins, resulting in the final score.

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Upcoming Home Events

Saturday, October 14
10:00 Field Hockey v. WPI
1:00 Men's Soccer v. Clark

Petre Hinterregger '93 pitches in the final game of the fall season. MIT lost to Merrimack, 6-2. The spring season starts up right after spring break next year.

Men's cross country places fifth at LeMoyne

By David Afshartous and Jon Gladstone

The men's cross country team performed respectfully at the 40th Annual LeMoyne College Invitational, finishing in fifth place. The Engineers were the only Massachusetts team competing with 10 New York teams at the event, which was held on Saturday in Syracuse.

Saint Lawrence University won the team title with a score of 31 points. It was followed by Rochester Institute of Technology, Niagara University, and Genesee College. MIT scored 128 points.

Leading the way for the Engineers was fifth-year-man Sean Kelley striding to a 17th place finish in 26:56 on the hilly five-mile course. Kelley missed the Engineers' last competition due to injury, but appears to be on the road to recovery. Right on Kelley's heels was Jon Gladstone '92. Next was Dave Afshartous G in 21st with a time of 27:07. James Williams '91 continued his consistent running with a solid 30th place showing in 27:24.

Perhaps the greatest surprise of the afternoon came from freshman Dev Sinha. Sinha placed fifth on the varsity, finishing 41st with a personal best time of 28:04.

Although the team did not place as well as anticipated, some positive signs were evident. The closeness of the top four runners indicates that the Engineers have the potential to be among the top teams in New England. The basic needs of the team are to concentrate more on running together as a team and using each other as a benefit. Once the team accomplishes this, they should be in the hunt for a bid to Nationals.

(Dave Afshartous G and Jon Gladstone '92 are members of the men's cross country team)