**Sports**

**Words on Sport/ Mohammed Eissa**

**LA Lakers to dominate once again**

The Los Angeles Lakers were the best in professional basketball throughout the 1980s, and were believed to be the greatest team in history. Now they find themselves in a new decade and a new era. The last two years they failed to win the championship, Kareem is gone, Pat Riley retired, and even defensive superstar Michael Cooper has left.

The style of basketball that Los Angeles helped to establish in the last decade required healthy and athletic players to fuel its quick attack. These are the ‘90s and age has become a factor. Are the Lakers now too old to run up and down the floor as fast as they did before?

In the championship series two years ago, the Lakers lost to Detroit not because of Detroit’s running game or its defense, but primarily because of key injuries to Magic Johnson and Byron Scott. Without those two starting guards, the Lakers were crippled.

It is important to understand the National Basketball Association as a whole has adopted the Lakers' style of play. Every team is looking to employ a running game and a strong defense. There is an overall trend to become faster and stronger mainly due to the outstanding success that the Lakers had with the fast break.

Now that the league has better athletes, utilizing a running game has become more of a challenge. The Lakers will not change the Lakers philosophy. During the off-season, they signed Sam Perkins as a free agent.

Perkins, who is six feet, 10 inches tall, is ideal for the Lakers system. He is a solid rebounder and shot-blocker, and most importantly, he is quick. He will most likely be coming off the bench to give either James Worthy or A.C. Green a rest. His defensive skills make it difficult for other teams to establish an inside game against the Lakers.

In addition to Perkins, the Lakers acquired Terry Teagle, who had been hampered by hamstring problems, is in good shape. His incredible outside shooting is crucial to the Lakers’ attack. The starting line up with Magic, Scott, Worthy, Thompson and Green remains the same as last year’s but the bench is more talented with Perkins, Teagle and Campbell.

The Lakers will make it to the Western Conference finals this year. Their dominance in the West is still unchallenged. Starting any catastrophic injuries to Magic, Scott or Worthy, they should win the Western Division title. The only difference from last year is that they will have a stronger defense and a quicker team. No matter whom they play in the finals — Detroit or Chicago — they should win it all and regain their authority.

**Mohammed Eissa**

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**Water polo tops BC in 17-16 thriller**

**Schonn's 6 goals lead Engineers**

By Jordan J. Dickel

The water polo team overcame a late surge by visiting Boston College, to come away with a 17-16 victory Wednesday night in the semi-final match of the water polo Beanpot Tournament. MIT improved its record to 4-0 with the exciting, one-point win at the Alumni Pool.

The Engineers scored their first goal after only 19 seconds of play, using three quick passes to beat an aggressive defensive attack by BC. Three minutes later, MIT increased the lead to 4-1 when Lee Van Gessel '91 scored a steal by Geoff Deane '91 into a quick goal. It appeared that the Eagles, who had scrambled, mounting an offensive attack early on, were in for a long night.

MIT maintained the three-goal lead through the end of the first period, but watched it disappear before halftime. In its best offensive effort of the game, BC scored six goals in a span of five minutes during the second period. The Eagles used long passes from the goalies to the wings in a run-and-gun (actually run-and-turn) style attack to tie the game at 7-7, with 4:25 remaining in the half.

Strong play from co-captain Will Schonert '91 countered the BC scoring run. Schonert scored three of his team-leading six goals in the quarter, preventing the Eagles from ever capturing the lead. After two periods, the home team led 11-9.

The third quarter featured outstanding play by MIT goalie, Chad Gunnlasson '93. Gunnlasson broke up BC passes and made several great saves on shots fired at him from the hole. Freshman Gregory Shank scored his third goal after finding a pass with 34 seconds left in the period to give MIT a 15-12 lead. The Engineers had several hurled scoring opportunities in the last 15 seconds but again failed to extend their lead to four points.

The last period began with Jim Lee '93 launching a shot at the Boston College goalkeeper during Wednesday evening's MIT defeating the Eagles, 17-16.

**Jim Lee '93 launches a shot at the Boston College goalkeeper during Wednesday evening's MIT defeating the Eagles, 17-16.**

**Colby-Sawyer ties up women's soccer**

By Jennifer M. Moore

The women's soccer team ended its regular season with a wet and scoreless game against Colby-Sawyer College Tuesday at Steinhrenner Stadium. Colby-Sawyer built most of the first half, but MIT made a good defensive effort. With Alyssa Parker '91 out for the season with leg injuries, Kristen Berry '94 and Lisa Cecchini '93 were the defensive gap adequately.

With seven minutes remaining in the first half, MIT came close to scoring, but most of the action came in the second half. With 36:00 left in the game, Colby-Sawyer broke away with the ball at midfield, but the kick went over the goal. Colby also missed scoring opportunities with 34:00, 13:30, and 10:30 left. And at 12:30, Colby-Sawyer again broke away with the ball, but again missed the shot on goal.

The Engineers showed more offense in the second half. They broke away with 31:30 left in the game, but were stopped before they could put the ball in the net. With 4:20 left, an MIT shot on goal went wide to the right by inches. And at the 2:00 mark, with MIT rushing the goal, the Curry goalie, a fullback, protected the goal effectively.

With seconds left, Curry missed two free scoring opportunities, sending the game into overtime, where both teams again failed to score.

The Engineers took on Wellesley College yesterday in the first round of the New England Women's Eight Conference championships.

(Editor's note: A full report on the NEW8 tournament results will appear in next Tuesday's Tech.)

**By Jennifer M. Moore**

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**Upcoming Home Events**

**Saturday, October 27**

1:00 Men's and Women's Fencing at Annual Alumni Meet

7:00 Men's Sailing at Schott Trophy

**Lawrence S. Schwartz/The Tech**

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**Samseer汉堡'93 fights for the ball during Tuesday's 0-0 overtime tie with Colby-Sawyer College.**

**Lawrence S. Schwartz/The Tech**

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**Rebecca Niles '92 pursues a Colby-Sawyer College player during Tuesday's game at Steinhrenner Stadium. The Engineers battled to a 0-0 overtime tie in their last regular-season game. MIT met Wellesley College last evening in the opening round of the New England Women's Eight Conference championships.**

**Lawrence S. Schwartz/The Tech**

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